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Timing of Driver's License Acquisition and Reasons for Delay among Young People in the United States, 2012

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Title

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Abstract

Graduated driver licensing (GDL) systems are designed to protect new drivers by limiting their exposure to risk initially and gradually phasing in additional driving privileges as they gain experience. Although numerous studies have shown that GDL has significantly reduced the numbers of 16- and 17-year-old drivers involved, injured, and killed in motor vehicle crashes, the few studies of its effects on 18- and 19-year-olds have produced conflicting results. Some researchers suspect that because most states' GDL systems only apply to new drivers younger than 18, GDL might encourage young people to wait until age 18 to obtain a license to avoid the requirements and restrictions associated with GDL, resulting in older teenagers having less driving experience and higher crash risk than they would without GDL.

This study investigated the ages at which young people obtain driver's licenses, as well as reasons for delaying licensure among those who did not obtain a license before turning 18. A questionnaire was administered online to a representative sample of 1,039 young adults ages 18-20. The data were weighted to reflect the population of 18- to 20-year-olds in the United States.

Delay in licensure was found to be widespread: only 44 percent of respondents reported that they obtained a driver's license within one year of the minimum age for licensing in their state, and only 54 percent reported that they obtained a license before turning 18. Large social and economic disparities in licensing rates and in the timing of licensure were identified. Among young adults who lived in households with annual incomes of \$60,000 or more, 60 percent were licensed within one year of their state's minimum age for licensure and 72 percent were licensed before age 18. In contrast, among young adults who lived in households with annual incomes of less than \$20,000, only 16 percent were licensed within one year of their state's minimum age and only 25 percent were licensed before age 18. Respondents who described themselves as black or as Hispanic were significantly less likely than non-Hispanic whites to have been licensed by any given age; this was observed even after controlling for household income.

There was little evidence that GDL was itself a major reason or motivator for delaying licensure. The most common self-reported reasons for delayed licensure were not having a car, being able to get around without driving, and costs associated with driving. Few cited difficulty associated with GDL requirements or undesirability of GDL restrictions. Furthermore, of 19- and 20-year-old respondents not licensed before age 18, fewer than one in three obtained a license before turning 19, suggesting that most were not simply waiting until age 18 to get a license merely to avoid the requirements and restrictions associated with GDL.

In conclusion, although there was little evidence that those who delayed licensure did so for the purpose of avoiding their state's GDL system, a substantial minority of all young people—and a majority of those who are black, Hispanic, or from low-income households—begin driving without the protection that GDL systems are designed to provide. Given the large proportion of new drivers who are 18 years old or older, further research is needed to investigate their levels of safety or risk, to evaluate the potential impacts of extending GDL systems to new drivers aged 18 and older, and to explore other ways to address the needs of older novice drivers.

Introduction

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children, teenagers, and young adults in the United States (Subramanian, 2012). Graduated driver licensing (GDL) systems, first introduced in the United States in 1996, are designed to protect young novice drivers by restricting exposure to risk initially and then gradually phasing in increased privileges as the driver gains experience (Williams, Tefft, & Grabowski, 2012). While numerous studies have found that strong GDL programs are associated with lower fatal crash involvement rates for 16- and 17-year-olds (Zhu *et al.*, 2012), results of the few studies investigating the effects of GDL on older teens have been mixed. Some researchers have hypothesized that because most states' GDL requirements and restrictions only apply to new drivers younger than 18, some young people might wait until they turn 18 to apply for a license, to avoid the requirements and restrictions associated with GDL. In this scenario, new drivers who delayed licensure until age 18 to avoid GDL would have less driving experience and thus higher crash risk than they would have had at the same age without GDL (Masten, Foss, & Marshall, 2011).

There is little data addressing factors that influence parents and their sons and daughters in deciding when to obtain a driver's license. The traditional view has been that teenagers want to get licensed as soon as possible, that is, get a learner's permit as soon as they reach the eligible age, and take the driving test as soon as they have satisfied minimum learner requirements (Preusser, 1996). In reality, that does not routinely happen. For example, a study conducted in 1983 in five states found that only a small minority got their learner's permit in the first month in which they were eligible, and most did not obtain licenses as soon as they were eligible to do so. In upstate New York, where the minimum age to obtain a license was 16, less than 40 percent obtained a license before they turned 17 (Williams, Lund, & Preusser, 1985). In 1990, several years before any state in the United States had enacted a GDL system, a national survey of self-reported travel behaviors found that only 41 percent of 16-year-olds, 70 percent of 17-year-olds, and 77 percent of 18-year-olds had a driver's license (Federal Highway Administration, 1991).

The current popular belief is that a greater proportion of young people delay licensure now than in the past. Although the national licensing data available from the Federal Highway Administration appear to show a downtrend in teen licensing rates (Sivak & Schoettle, 2012; 2012a), these data have been shown to contain substantial errors in the numbers of licensed teenage drivers that they report and thus are unusable for monitoring trends (Ferguson, Teoh, & McCartt, 2007; Foss, 2013). However, periodic national surveys of high school seniors show a downward trend in licensing rates among this group: 85 percent reported having a license in 1996 but only 73 percent reported having a license in 2010 (Shults & Williams, 2013).

Several speculations have been offered regarding the reasons why the licensure rates of young people could be declining. One possible explanation is that the driving patterns of young people are more affected than are those of the overall driving population by economic factors. One study found that the effects of gas prices and unemployment were significantly associated with the number of teen drivers involved in fatal crashes, even after accounting for the contributions of GDL, alcohol laws, and other factors (Morrissey & Grabowski, 2011), suggesting effects of these factors on the proportion of teens who are licensed, the amount

that licensed teens drive, or both. It has also been conjectured that some teens may wait until age 18 to get a license in order to avoid the requirements and restrictions of GDL systems (Masten, Foss, & Marshall, 2011). Another possible reason why some young people might delay licensure until age 18 is to avoid having to take a driver education course. Driver education is required for licensure prior to age 18 in about half of all states, and in many states it is available primarily or exclusively through commercial driving schools, which can be quite expensive (Thomas, Blomberg, & Fisher, 2012). In addition, some limited data suggest that driving, and thus licensure, has become less useful to young people due to their ability to connect with their friends via the Internet. For example, one recent study of Internet access and driver licensing rates in 15 countries reported that the licensing rates of young people tended to be lower in countries in which a larger proportion of the population had access to the Internet (Sivak & Schoettle, 2012).

Changes in the timing of licensure could have implications for safety; however, those implications are presently unclear. Some studies suggest that older novice drivers have lower crash rates than equally inexperienced younger novices (McCartt et al., 2009; Maycock, Lockwood, & Lester, 1991). However, novices ages 18 and older miss the opportunity to begin driving under the relatively safe conditions of GDL and thus may have greater risk than if they had begun driving and accumulating experience at an earlier age under a GDL system. Some studies have reported increases in fatal crash involvement rates for 18- and 19-year-olds in states with strong GDL systems (Masten, Foss, & Marshall, 2011; Fell, et al., 2012); however, others have found decreases in fatal crash involvement rates at these ages (McCartt et al., 2010; Morrissey & Grabowski, 2010); and still other studies have found the crash rates of 18- and 19-year-olds are unrelated to GDL (Zhu et al., 2013). Understanding the extent of and reasons for delay in licensure among young people may shed light on the conflicting evidence currently available on the association of GDL and fatal crash rates 18- and 19-year-old drivers.

Many state GDL systems have the effect of increasing the minimum age for licensure, for example by requiring a new driver to hold a learner permit for a certain length of time and/or accumulate a certain amount of supervised practice prior to applying for a license. However, not much is known about the relationship between GDL requirements and voluntarily waiting even longer to apply for a license (e.g., delaying licensure for the specific purpose of avoiding the GDL requirements). In a study conducted in 2006, parents of 16- and 17-year-olds in Minnesota, North Carolina, and Rhode Island were interviewed while their teens were taking the driving test. In that study, delayed permit acquisition was defined as obtaining a permit more than two months after they reached the minimum age; delayed licensing was defined as waiting more than two months after the minimum permit holding period to take the driving test. By this definition, 61 percent of Minnesota teens delayed permit acquisition, as did 46 percent in North Carolina and 23 percent in Rhode Island (McCartt, Hellenga, & Haire, 2007). The most frequent reasons asserted for delay in obtaining a permit were to fulfill a driver education requirement, the teenager being immature or not ready, and school activities/time constraints. For delayed licensure, the most common reason provided by parents in all states was that the teen needed more practice driving. In North Carolina, 15 percent mentioned the high cost of insurance, but this was basically the only cost issue raised by a substantial proportion of teens. In an online national survey of 15- to 18-year-olds conducted in late 2010, 22 percent of the 18-year-old respondents had not yet obtained a learner's permit. When they were presented with a list of possible reasons and asked to indicate which, if any, were a factor, 55 percent

indicated that no car was available, 30 percent said that driving costs too much, 24 percent indicated that licensing requirements were a hassle, 13 percent indicated they did not need a car to connect with friends, and 6 percent said that Facebook and texting and other electronic communication devices kept them in touch with friends (Williams, 2012).

In the study of Williams (2012), most of the 15- to 18-year-olds were just starting the licensing process or were in the midst of it, so the full distribution of the timing of licensure and reasons for delay could not be investigated fully. The main objective of the current study was to address this gap by surveying a representative sample of young adults ages 18–20, all of whom were old enough to have obtained a license that allowed independent driving under at least some circumstances (i.e., at least an intermediate/provisional license) 12 months or more prior to the survey in any state in the United States.

Another objective of the study was to examine views of young people about GDL policies. Assuming that many in this age group will have gone through the GDL process, they will have a fresh and relevant perspective on the various possibilities for guiding young beginners to full-privilege driving. It has been established that states with the most comprehensive licensing systems have achieved the greatest reductions in crash rates of 16- and 17-year-olds (McCartt et al., 2010; Fell et al., 2011), but many states have relatively weak systems. The views of recent participants in the licensing process and others in that age cohort can provide insight about attitudes toward different policy options.

Methods

Sample

A sample of respondents ages 18–20 was recruited from GfK's KnowledgePanel® (Knowledge Networks, 2012) to complete an online questionnaire. KnowledgePanel® consists of members of households recruited using standard probability-based random digit dial (RDD) and address-based survey sampling methods. The sampling frame includes all United States households reachable by telephone or postal mail. Households that lack Internet access or Internet-capable computer are provided with a netbook computer and Internet connection at no cost. Individuals whose households were not sampled by GfK cannot volunteer to join the panel. Because each individual respondent's probability of being invited to join the panel and probability of selection for a particular survey are known, survey statistics can be weighted to reflect the entire population of the United States.

KnowledgePanel® members ages 18–20 were invited to complete an online questionnaire between June 27 and July 12, 2012. The sample was stratified to obtain approximately equal numbers of respondents ages 18, 19, and 20. Adult KnowledgePanel® members who had adult children ages 18–20 were also contacted for the purpose of recruiting their adult children to increase sample size. The questionnaire was made available in English and in Spanish; respondents were able to complete the survey in whichever language they preferred.

Responses were obtained from 642 of 1,464 KnowledgePanel® members aged 18-20 and from 409 of 2,082 18- to 20-year-olds recruited via parents who were members of KnowledgePanel®, yielding 1,051 total responses and an overall within-survey response

rate of 30 percent. After survey completion, 12 respondents were deemed ineligible on the basis of their date of birth (age < 18 years or age 21+ years), yielding 1,039 eligible respondents.¹

Questionnaire

Licensure Status: The questionnaire asked respondents to indicate whether they had a driver's license, a learner's permit, or neither. Respondents who indicated that they had a license were asked whether the license allowed them to drive without another adult in the vehicle, to confirm that the respondent held a provisional or full license as opposed to a learner's permit. Because the focus of the study was the timing of initial licensure, respondents who reported that they had been licensed but that their license had been suspended or revoked (n=6) were treated as licensed.

Timing of Licensure: Licensed respondents were asked to report the age in years and months at which they first obtained a license that allowed them to drive without another adult in the vehicle, and the state in which it was issued. If the respondent did not remember or reported an implausible age (e.g., younger than the minimum age for licensure in the respondent's state), the respondent was asked to place it into one of four categories (less than 6 months, 6 months – 1 year, 1 – 2 years, or more than 2 years from the minimum age for licensure in the respondent's state), and this was used to calculate the range of ages at which the respondent could have been licensed. Respondents who reported that they held a learner permit at the time of the survey and respondents who reported that they obtained a license more than six months after their state's minimum age for licensure were asked to report the age at which they obtained a learner permit.

Reasons for Delaying Licensure: Respondents who reported having obtained their driver's license six months or longer after the minimum age in their state and those who had not yet obtained their license were shown a list of several possible reasons why a young person might delay obtaining their license or permit, and were asked to indicate whether each was a "Very important reason," "Somewhat important reason," "Minor reason," or "Not a reason" why they did not obtain their license sooner. Respondents were also given an opportunity to state in their own words why they delayed obtaining their license or permit.

Opinions about Driver Licensing Policies: Respondents also were asked several questions regarding their opinions about various licensing policies for new drivers. Specific items included whether they supported or opposed restrictions for newly-licensed young drivers on night driving and carrying passengers, as well as their opinions regarding the minimum age at which a learner permit should be available, the duration of the learner permit period, the number of hours of supervised driving practice that should be required, the age at which a new driver should be able to obtain a license to drive without another adult in the vehicle, the hours covered by night-time driving restrictions, and the number of passengers that a passenger restriction should allow.

¹ Three respondents were 20 years old on the date that the sample was drawn, but had turned 21 by the time they completed the questionnaire. Because the focus of the study was driver licensing, and these respondents would have become eligible to obtain their license in the same year as respondents who were one week younger (and still 20 years old), these respondents were deemed eligible and treated as 20 years old.

Analysis

The data were weighted to account for differences in probability of selection for recruitment into KnowledgePanel®, differences in probability of selection for this survey, and to align the characteristics of the respondents to those of the population of U.S. residents ages 18–20 nationwide with respect to age, sex, race and ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan area, and number of household members aged 18-20.

Binary variables were derived to indicate whether the respondent:

1. Obtained a driver's license within 12 months of the minimum age for licensure in his or her state.
2. Obtained a driver's license before age 18.
3. Obtained a learner's permit within 12 months of the minimum age for obtaining a permit in his or her state.
4. Obtained a learner's permit before age 18.

Whether the respondent obtained his or her learner's permit within 12 months of the state minimum age and by age 18 could not be determined in eight percent and seven percent of cases, respectively. Licensure within 12 months and by age 18 could not be determined in three percent and two percent of cases, respectively. Missing values of these variables were multiply-imputed (Rubin, 1987) using the method of chained equations (White, Royston, & Wood, 2011). Twenty independent imputations were performed. Variables included in the imputation model were respondent age, sex, Census region, household income, race and ethnicity, self-reported urbanicity of the place where the respondent lived when he or she was 16 years old, and the minimum age for licensure in the state where the respondent obtained his or her license or permit.

Multivariable logistic regression was used to examine the associations of each binary indicator variable for timing of licensure with each of the demographic variables after adjustment for the others. Marginal standardization was used to compute adjusted prevalence ratios from the logistic regression models (Localio, Margolis, & Berlin, 2007; Cummings, 2011). Separate models were estimated for each of the four main outcome variables.

All analyses were performed on weighted data using Stata statistical software, and took into account the variance associated with both the survey sampling method and the multiple imputation of missing values. Analyses of self-reported reasons for delay in obtaining a learner's permit or driver's license and analyses of attitudes toward licensing policies are descriptive only; no statistical tests were performed.

Results

The characteristics of the survey respondents are shown in Table 1. Seventy percent of respondents reported that at the time of the survey they had a license that allowed them to drive without another adult in the vehicle, 12 percent reported having a learner's permit, 1 percent reported having had a license or permit that had expired or had been suspended or revoked, and 17 percent reported having never had a license nor a learner's permit.

Table 1. Characteristics of respondents, survey of 1,039 young adults ages 18–20 conducted June 27 – July 12, 2012, weighted to reflect population of United States residents of same ages.

	Weighted N	Weighted %^a
Age		
18 (n=329)	340.8	33
19 (n=359)	347.6	33
20 (n=351)	350.6	34
Sex		
Male (n=468)	510.8	49
Female (n=571)	528.2	51
Licensure status		
License (n=745)	729.0	70
Permit (n=115)	122.7	12
License suspended/revoked (n=6)	6.1	<1
Permit expired/suspended/revoked (n=12)	9.4	<1
Never obtained license or permit (n=161)	171.7	17
Place of residence at age 16^b		
Out in the country (n=136)	133.2	13
Small town (n=212)	213.3	21
Medium-sized town (n=246)	246.4	24
Small city (n=224)	222.9	22
Large city (n=215)	217.5	21
Household income		
<\$20,000 (n=200)	162.2	16
\$20,000-\$39,999 (n=230)	220.1	21
\$40,000-\$59,999 (n=159)	141.0	14
\$60,000-\$99,999 (n=233)	243.5	23
\$100,000+ (n=217)	272.3	26
Race & Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic white (n=632)	599.4	58
Non-Hispanic black (n=96)	133.2	13
Non-Hispanic other, including 2+ races (n=90)	85.0	8
Hispanic (n=221)	221.5	21

^a Percents may not add to 100 due to rounding.^b Six respondents with missing data were excluded.

As expected, the proportion of respondents who were licensed increased with age: 65 percent of 18-year-olds, 70 percent of 19-year-olds, and 76 percent of 20-year-olds had obtained a license (Table 2). There was little variation by sex in the proportion of respondents licensed. The proportion of respondents who were licensed varied strongly by Census region: licensing rates were much higher in the Midwest (82%) than in the Northeast (64%), South (68%), or West (71%). The proportion of respondents who were licensed increased with increasing household income across all categories: only 48 percent of respondents who reported household incomes of less than \$20,000 per year, and fully 88 percent of those who reported household incomes of \$100,000 or more had obtained their license. The proportion of respondents who were licensed was substantially lower among those who self-identified as non-Hispanic black (55%) or Hispanic (57%) than among those who self-identified as non-Hispanic white (79%). Respondents who reported that they lived “out in the country” (i.e., in a rural location) when they were 16 years old were much more likely to have been licensed (79%) than respondents who lived in towns or cities (68-72%).

Timing of Licensure

Substantial delay in licensure was observed: only 44 percent of respondents reported that they obtained a driver’s license within 12 months of the minimum age for licensing in their state, and only 54 percent reported that they obtained a license before their 18th birthday (Table 3). Only 51 percent obtained a learner permit within 12 months of the minimum age in their state, and 72 percent obtained a permit before their 18th birthday.

Examination of the factors associated with the timing of licensure revealed that the characteristic most strongly related to delay in licensure was household income: only 16 percent of respondents from households with annual incomes of less than \$20,000 obtained a license within 12 months of the minimum age, and 25 percent obtained a license before age 18 (Table 3). For comparison, among respondents from households with annual incomes of \$100,000 or more, 67 percent obtained a license within 12 months of the minimum age, and 79 percent did before age 18.

Respondent race and ethnicity was also significantly associated with the timing of licensure: the proportions of respondents licensed within 12 months of the minimum age in their state and before age 18 were much lower among respondents who described themselves as Hispanic (21% licensed within 12 months; 29% licensed before age 18) or as non-Hispanic black (24% licensed within 12 months; 37% licensed before age 18) than among those who described themselves as non-Hispanic white (56% licensed within 12 months; 67% licensed before age 18).

Respondents from the Midwest tended to obtain licenses sooner than respondents from other parts of the country: the proportion of respondents from the Midwest who were licensed before age 18 (68%) was much greater than the corresponding proportion among respondents from other parts of the country (50%).

Although males were slightly more likely than females to obtain a license within six months of their state’s minimum age (33% vs. 28%, not shown), females were actually slightly more likely than males to obtain a license within 12 months of their state’s

Table 2. Licensure status at time of survey in relation to demographic characteristics in a representative sample of young adults ages 18–20, United States, 2012.

		Licensure status ^a		
		Driver's license	Learner's permit	Neither
		Row %		
Age	All (n=1,039)	71	13	17
	18 (n=329)	65	18	17
	19 (n=359)	70	13	16
	20 (n=351)	76	7	16
Sex	Male (n=468)	70	12	18
	Female (n=571)	71	14	15
Census region	Northeast (n=193)	64	13	22
	Midwest (n=261)	82	12	6
	South (n=316)	68	15	18
	West (n=269)	71	10	20
Place of residence at age 16^b				
	Out in the country (n=136)	79	14	7
	Small town (n=212)	68	17	15
	Medium-sized town (n=246)	72	12	17
	Small city (n=224)	71	11	18
	Large city (n=215)	68	11	22
Household income				
	<\$20,000 (n=200)	48	22	31
	\$20,000 – \$39,999 (n=230)	53	15	32
	\$40,000 – \$59,999 (n=159)	71	16	13
	\$60,000 – \$99,999 (n=233)	82	10	8
	\$100,000+ (n=217)	88	7	5
Race & ethnicity				
	Non-Hispanic white (n=632)	79	10	11
	Non-Hispanic black (n=96)	55	23	22
	Non-Hispanic other, incl. 2+ races (n=90)	75	15	11
	Hispanic (n=221)	57	14	29

Notes: Row percents may not add to 100 due to rounding.

a. Six respondents who reported that their drivers' license had been suspended or revoked were counted as licensed, and 12 respondents who reported that their learner's permit had expired or had been suspended or revoked were counted as having learner's permits, because the focus of the study was the timing of license and permit acquisition, not current licensure status.

b. Six respondents with missing data on place of residence at age 16 were excluded.

Table 3. Timing of driver's license and learner's permit acquisition in relation to demographic characteristics in a representative sample of 18- to 20-year-olds, United States, 2012.

		Driver's License				Learner's Permit			
		Within 12 months of state minimum age		Before 18 th birthday		Within 12 months of state minimum age		Before 18 th birthday	
		Unadjusted %	adjusted Prevalence Ratio ^a (95% CI)	Unadjusted %	adjusted Prevalence Ratio ^a (95% CI)	Unadjusted %	adjusted Prevalence Ratio ^a (95% CI)	Unadjusted %	adjusted Prevalence Ratio ^a (95% CI)
All (n=1,039)		44		54		51		72	
Age	18 (n=329)	45	1 [Reference]	56	1 [Reference]	52	1 [Reference]	78	1 [Reference]
	19 (n=359)	42	1.01 (0.80–1.27)	52	0.95 (0.79–1.15)	49	0.97 (0.78–1.21)	67	0.85 (0.75–0.97)
	20 (n=351)	45	1.09 (0.88–1.35)	53	1.02 (0.86–1.21)	54	1.09 (0.89–1.33)	72	0.95 (0.85–1.06)
Sex	Male (n=468)	42	1 [Reference]	51	1 [Reference]	50	1 [Reference]	71	1 [Reference]
	Female (n=571)	46	1.01 (0.84–1.21)	57	1.05 (0.91–1.22)	53	1.02 (0.87–1.19)	74	1.01 (0.91–1.11)
Census region	Northeast (n=193)	48	1 [Reference]	50	1 [Reference]	55	1 [Reference]	65	1 [Reference]
	Midwest (n=261)	56	1.21 (0.95–1.54)	68	1.48 (1.19–1.85)	60	1.14 (0.91–1.44)	86	1.44 (1.21–1.72)
	South (n=316)	38	1.01 (0.77–1.32)	51	1.30 (1.03–1.63)	46	1.05 (0.82–1.35)	71	1.29 (1.07–1.55)
	West (n=269)	39	0.98 (0.74–1.29)	49	1.23 (0.97–1.55)	49	1.09 (0.86–1.39)	67	1.22 (1.01–1.47)
Place of residence at age 16 ^b	Out in the country (n=136)	57	1 [Reference]	69	1 [Reference]	59	1 [Reference]	88	1 [Reference]
	Small town (n=212)	42	0.87 (0.63–1.20)	50	0.82 (0.64–1.05)	55	1.08 (0.81–1.43)	67	0.81 (0.68–0.97)
	Medium-sized town (n=246)	45	0.84 (0.62–1.15)	56	0.84 (0.66–1.07)	49	0.89 (0.67–1.19)	74	0.85 (0.72–0.99)
	Small city (n=224)	47	0.97 (0.71–1.33)	54	0.89 (0.70–1.14)	53	1.04 (0.77–1.40)	70	0.83 (0.70–0.98)
	Large city (n=215)	34	0.80 (0.56–1.14)	48	0.86 (0.67–1.11)	45	1.00 (0.74–1.35)	69	0.85 (0.73–0.99)
Household income	<\$20,000 (n=200)	16	0.28 (0.17–0.47)	25	0.37 (0.25–0.55)	27	0.41 (0.26–0.63)	48	0.54 (0.42–0.69)
	\$20,000 – \$39,999 (n=230)	27	0.50 (0.36–0.71)	34	0.54 (0.41–0.70)	36	0.61 (0.46–0.81)	52	0.66 (0.55–0.78)
	\$40,000 – \$59,999 (n=159)	44	0.72 (0.54–0.95)	52	0.68 (0.54–0.85)	50	0.72 (0.56–0.93)	80	0.87 (0.76–1.00)
	\$60,000 – \$99,999 (n=233)	52	0.81 (0.65–1.01)	64	0.81 (0.68–0.96)	59	0.83 (0.68–1.01)	82	0.91 (0.81–1.02)
	\$100,000+ (n=217)	67	1 [Reference]	79	1 [Reference]	72	1 [Reference]	90	1 [Reference]
Race & ethnicity	Non-Hispanic white (n=632)	56	1 [Reference]	67	1 [Reference]	65	1 [Reference]	82	1 [Reference]
	Non-Hispanic black (n=96)	24	0.57 (0.36–0.90)	37	0.67 (0.48–0.93)	32	0.60 (0.40–0.89)	64	0.88 (0.74–1.05)
	Non-Hispanic other, incl. 2+ races (n=90)	46	0.94 (0.69–1.28)	51	0.87 (0.67–1.13)	53	0.89 (0.66–1.20)	75	1.00 (0.87–1.16)
	Hispanic (n=221)	21	0.57 (0.38–0.87)	29	0.60 (0.45–0.81)	27	0.53 (0.37–0.76)	49	0.77 (0.64–0.91)

Notes: Missing values for timing of licensure (n=23; 3% of weighted data) and permit (n=78; 7% of weighted data) were multiply-imputed.

a. Adjusted prevalence ratios were estimated using multivariable logistic regression followed by marginal standardization.

b. Six respondents with missing data on place of residence at age 16 were excluded.

minimum age and before age 18; however, neither even approached statistical significance after controlling for other factors.

Respondents who described their place of residence at the age of 16 as “out in the country” appeared much more likely than respondents from more urbanized areas to have obtained a license within 12 months and prior to their 18th birthday; however, differences were much smaller and were no longer statistically significant when associations with other demographic differences were controlled.

Relationships between demographic characteristics and the timing of obtaining a learner’s permit were similar to those described previously for obtaining a driver’s license (Table 3). Respondents from lower-income households were less likely to have obtained a permit within 12 months of the minimum age in their state and prior to their 18th birthday, compared with respondents from higher-income households. Respondents who self-identified as Hispanic or as non-Hispanic black were significantly less likely than respondents who self-identified as non-Hispanic white to have obtained a permit by any given point. Respondents from Midwestern states were much more likely to have obtained their permit prior to their 18th birthday compared to respondents from other parts of the country. Sex and urban vs. rural residence were not significantly associated with the timing of obtaining a learner’s permit after relationships with other variables were controlled.

Reasons for Delay in Licensure

Table 4 shows possible reasons for delaying licensure that respondents rated as “very important” or “somewhat important” reasons why they did not obtain their license sooner, for those who did not obtain their license prior to their 18th birthday. The reasons most commonly rated as very or somewhat important were not having a car (44%), ability to get around without driving (39%), the cost of gasoline (36%), the cost of driving overall (36%), and “just didn’t get around to it” (35%). Fewer than one in four respondents not licensed before age 18 cited reasons plausibly related to graduated driver licensing, such as that special requirements for younger new drivers made it more difficult to get a license sooner (23%) or that they did not want a license with special restrictions for young drivers (21%).

Among respondents who did not obtain a learner permit before their 18th birthday, 52 percent rated not having a car as a very or somewhat important reason, 45 percent rated their ability to get around without driving as a very or somewhat important reason, and 42 percent said they “just didn’t get around to it.” Those who did obtain a learner permit but not a driver’s license prior to their 18th birthday were somewhat less likely to rate not having a car (33%), being able to get around without driving (31%) or just not getting around to it (25%) as very or somewhat important reasons. Those who did not obtain a learner permit before their 18th birthday were also more likely to cite avoiding getting a license with special restrictions for young drivers (24%) as a very or somewhat important reason for delaying licensure, compared to those who obtained a learner permit but not a driver’s license prior to age 18 (14%). Similarly few (17%) cited the ability to connect with friends online via social media as an important reason for not getting their license sooner.

Respondents were also given the opportunity to state in their own words any additional reasons why they did not obtain their license sooner. The dominant theme among these

Table 4. Reasons for delaying licensure among respondents who did not obtain a license before age 18 in relation to learner permit status at age 18, from a representative sample of young adults ages 18–20, United States, 2012.

	Learner's permit before 18 th birthday ^a		
	Yes (N=186)	No (N=271)	All (N=458)
	% who rated item as a "Very important reason" or "Somewhat important reason"		
Did not have a car	33	52	44
Could get around without driving	31	45	39
Gas was too expensive	35	37	36
Driving was too expensive	38	34	36
Just didn't get around to it	25	42	35
Could do what I wanted to do without driving	31	32	32
Was nervous about driving	24	34	30
Just not very interested in driving	27	30	29
Had to complete driver education course first	22	33	28
Getting a license was too expensive	27	26	26
Parents didn't have time to take me out to practice driving	21	28	25
Special requirements made it hard to get licensed at younger age	19	26	23
Too busy to spend time learning how to drive	18	23	21
Didn't want license with special restrictions that only applied to drivers under a certain age	14	24	21
Parents wouldn't let me get license sooner	24	17	20
To avoid having to take driver education	11	24	19
Could connect with friends online	15	19	17
Tried to obtain license sooner, but failed test	13	16	15
Took long time to get appointment for test	8	10	10

Notes: Missing values for timing of permit and licensure were imputed 20 times and averaged.

Raw number (weighted %) of values imputed: License before 18th birthday: 18 (2%); Permit before 18th birthday: 63 (7%).

a. Timing of permit was missing and could not be imputed for 1 driver.

open-ended responses was the expense of driving—particularly insurance costs, which were not specifically asked about in the questionnaire. Another theme was issues related to parents (e.g., parents' financial issues, parents wanting them to get more practice, willing to transport them, parents refused to allow licensure because of poor grades). Personal issues were also mentioned, e.g., medical conditions, being intimidated by driving, considering driving to be dangerous or stressful, and environmental concerns. Some respondents stressed that they did not need a license, in many cases citing easy access to public transportation. Two respondents said they were waiting until age 18 to avoid having to take driver education. No respondent specifically indicated they were waiting until 18 in order to avoid GDL requirements.

In additional analysis of 19- and 20-year-old respondents not licensed before age 18 (N=332), only 32 percent obtained their license before they turned 19. Of those who obtained a learner permit but not a driver's license before turning 18, 59 percent obtained their driver's license before turning 19. In contrast, only 18 percent of those who did not obtain their learner permit before turning 18 obtained their driver's license before turning 19. In addition, of those not licensed prior to their 18th birthday, those who rated avoiding getting a license with special restrictions for young drivers and/or the difficulty associated with special requirements for younger new drivers as very or somewhat important reasons for delaying licensure were virtually no more likely to get their license before turning 19 (32%) than those who did not (30%).

Opinions about Driver Licensing Policies

Table 5 shows the percentage of respondents who expressed support for a range of licensing-related policies for new drivers. When asked at what age a young person should be able to obtain a learner's permit, 62 percent selected a response of 16 or older (Table 5). Virtually all respondents (96%) indicated that they thought the minimum age for a new driver to obtain a license that allows driving without another licensed adult in the vehicle should be at least 16; 27 percent selected an age of 17 or 17 ½, and 31 percent selected an age of 18 or older. When asked at what age a new driver should be able to obtain a full-privilege driver's license with no special restrictions for new drivers, 87 percent selected an age of at least 17, including 61 percent who said 18 or older. Respondents who obtained their license at younger ages favored a younger minimum age for obtaining a permit and a license than did those who obtained their license at older ages or had not yet obtained a license. There were also large regional differences in opinions about the ages for obtaining a permit and a license. Compared to respondents from the West or South, respondents from the Northeast favored older ages and respondents from the Midwest favored younger ages.

When asked how long a new driver should have to hold a learner permit before being able to obtain a license that allows unsupervised driving, 86 percent of respondents favored requiring holding the learner permit for at least six months, including 46 percent who favored requiring holding the permit for 12 months or longer (median = 8 months). Opinions about the length of the learner period did not vary substantially with respect to any of the demographic characteristics examined other than region: respondents from the Midwest and South—who also favored a younger minimum age for obtaining learner permits—tended to favor a longer learner permit period than did respondents from the Northeast or the West.

Table 5. Support for various licensing policies for new drivers, representative sample of 18- to 20-year-olds, United States, 2012.

	% Favor
Learner permit: minimum age < 15	5
15 or 15 ½	33
16+	62
Initial license: minimum age <16	4
16 or 16 ½	38
17 or 17 ½	27
18+	31
Full license: minimum age <17	13
17 or 17 ½	26
18+	61
Learner permit period: < 6 months	14
6 months	36
7-11 months	5
12+ months	46
Supervised practice required: 0-12 hours	19
30-50 hours	39
60-90 hours	19
100+ hours	23
Restriction on teenage passengers other than family (in general)	77
0 Teenage passengers*	12
1 Teenage passenger*	44
2 Teenage passengers*	73
Night restriction (in general)	77
Beginning at 10 PM*	51
Beginning at 11 PM*	66
Beginning at Midnight*	87

* Respondents were asked to indicate specific number of passengers that should be allowed for passenger restriction and specific time that night restriction should begin, and were counted as favoring the option shown if their selection was equal to or more restrictive than the option shown. For example, a response indicating that the night restriction should begin at 11 PM was counted as favoring a night restriction that begins at 11 PM, and as favoring a night restriction that begins at midnight, but not favoring a night restriction that begins earlier than 11 PM.

Eighty-one percent of respondents favored requiring at least 30 hours of supervised driving practice during the learner period, including 23 percent who favored requiring 100 or more hours (median = 50 hours). This did not vary substantially with respect to any of the demographic characteristics examined.

When asked their opinion about restricting the number of teenage passengers that a new driver is allowed to carry in general, without specifying the number of passengers allowed, 77 percent of respondents expressed support. However, when asked specifically how many passengers should be allowed, only 12 percent said zero and an additional 32 percent said one. When asked about restrictions on nighttime driving for newly-licensed drivers in general, 77 percent expressed support. When asked what time the restriction should begin, 51 percent said 10 PM or earlier, an additional 15 percent said 10:30 or 11 PM, and another 21 percent said 11:30 PM or midnight.

When asked whether all new drivers, only new drivers under age 18, or no drivers should be required to get a license with special restrictions for new drivers prior to obtaining a full license, 28 percent supported requiring all new drivers regardless of age to first obtain a license with special restrictions for new drivers; 60 percent supported requiring all new drivers under age 18 to obtain a license with special restrictions. Only 12 percent indicated that not even a new driver under age 18 should be required to obtain a license with some restrictions prior to obtaining a full license.

Discussion

In a representative sample of young adults aged 18-20, fewer than half obtained a driver's license within a year of the minimum age for licensure in their state, and only slightly more than half obtained a driver's license before their 18th birthday. Most states' GDL systems only apply to new drivers younger than 18. If it is assumed that all young people will eventually obtain a license, this means that nearly half will obtain a license after turning 18 and thus without the protection that modern driver licensing systems are intended to provide for new drivers. Even if the proportion of respondents who had at least a learner's permit at the time of the survey is taken as a more conservative estimate of the proportion of this cohort who will ever obtain a license (i.e., some people may never drive), this implies that more than one in three young people who eventually become licensed will do so after turning 18 and thus outside of the GDL system.

Significant social and economic disparities were identified. Respondents who self-identified as black or Hispanic were significantly less likely to be licensed before age 18 compared with non-Hispanic whites. Lower household income was independently associated with a lower rate of licensure before age 18 across the entire range of household incomes examined. Only 32 percent of respondents who were black or Hispanic, 25 percent of respondents who were from households with incomes of less than \$20,000 per year, and 17 percent of those who were both black or Hispanic and from low-income households were licensed before age 18; these groups made up 63 percent of all of those who were not licensed before age 18. These results suggest that most minority and low-income young people do not experience the protective learning environment of GDL and thus do not benefit from it.

Historically, it was never the case that most young people obtained their license as soon as they reached their state's minimum age. In a study of young drivers in upstate New York, Williams, Lund, & Preusser (1985) found that fewer than 40 percent of young people were licensed upon reaching age 17. This was more than a decade before the enactment of GDL in the state. In 1990, several years before any U.S. state had enacted a GDL system, a national survey found that only 41 percent of 16-year-olds, 70 percent of 17-year-olds, and 77 percent of 18-year-olds were licensed drivers (Federal Highway Administration, 1991). Prior studies (e.g., Williams, 2011; CHOP, 2007) have reported that Hispanics were less likely than non-Hispanic whites to obtain licenses at young ages—that was observed in this study as well. Heck & Nathaniel (2011) also suggested that rural teens were licensed earlier and city-dwellers were more likely to delay licensure. The same relationship was observed in the current study in bivariate comparisons, but was substantially attenuated after controlling for other demographic characteristics such as income, race and ethnicity, and Census region. However, the current study did not have sufficient sample size to completely disentangle the contributions of these factors, which in many cases were correlated.

Unfortunately, it has been difficult to address the question of whether delay in licensure among young people is more widespread now than it was in the past, due to shortcomings in multiple sources of data. Whereas a periodic nationwide travel survey (Federal Highway Administration, 1991) investigated driver licensing status in a representative sample of driving-aged U.S. residents, similar surveys conducted in 1995, 2001, and 2008 only asked respondents whether or not they drove but did not assess licensure directly, thus rendering these data unusable for analysis of trends in licensure. In addition, data submitted by individual states to the Federal Highway Administration has been found to contain major errors with respect to data on teenage drivers, thus rendering it unusable for trend analysis as well (Foss, 2013). Periodic cross-sectional surveys have shown that the proportion of high school seniors who reported having a driver's license declined from 85 percent in 1996 to 73 percent in 2010 (Shults & Williams, 2013). The reasons why licensing rates appeared to be so much higher in those surveys than in the current study are unclear; given that their samples comprised high school students surveyed during the spring of their senior year, the majority of respondents in those studies were likely 17 or 18 years old. It is possible that some respondents in that survey who possessed the type of license that the current study classified as a learner permit (i.e., a license that allows driving only with a licensed adult supervisor in the car) responded affirmatively; some states no longer use the term "learner permit" and now refer to this a "learner license" or similar. Changes in the basic structure of state licensing systems cloud the interpretation of post-GDL vs. pre-GDL comparisons of the percent of young people who have a "license."

In regard to reasons for delay, there has been concern that GDL has resulted in young people waiting until after they turn 18 to apply for a license in order to avoid being subject to the requirements and restrictions of GDL systems. While GDL is known to have reduced the crash involvement of 16-year-old drivers substantially and 17-year-old drivers moderately (Zhu, Cummings, Li, & Coben, 2013), some studies have suggested that strong GDL systems have been associated with increases in the fatal crash involvement of 18- and 19-year-olds. Some researchers have suggested voluntary delay in licensure until age 18 for the purpose of avoiding GDL as one possible explanation for those findings (Masten, Foss, & Marshall, 2011). The current study could not investigate that hypothesis directly, as GDL had already become virtually universal by the time the cohort of young adults surveyed in

the current study had reached driving age (93% of respondents lived in states whose GDL systems were rated as “Fair” or “Good” by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety by the time they reached their state’s minimum age for licensure). However, this was investigated indirectly in two ways, both of which suggested that desire to avoid GDL was at most a minor factor in delaying licensure among young people who did so.

First, when young people not licensed prior to their 18th birthday were asked why they did not obtain their license sooner, the predominant reasons related to opportunity (e.g., not having a car), cost (e.g., gas was too expensive), and motivation (e.g., “could get around without driving,” “just didn’t get around to it”). Few rated the difficulty of the licensing process (e.g., “special requirements made it hard to get a license at a younger age”) or perceived undesirability of having a license with restrictions (e.g., “I didn’t want to get a license with special restrictions that only applied to drivers under a certain age”) as very or somewhat important reasons why they did not obtain a license sooner.

Second, of 19- and 20-year-olds who did not obtain a license before they turned 18, fewer than one in three obtained a license before they turned 19. Of those who did not even obtain a learner permit before they turned 18, fewer than one in five obtained a license before they turned 19. If large numbers of young people were waiting until their 18th birthday to obtain their license *for the purpose of avoiding the GDL system*, one might expect more of them to obtain their license soon after turning 18 and fewer to reach their 19th birthday still not having a license.

Young people ages 18-20 have an important perspective on the driver licensing system. Those who obtained their driver’s license prior to age 18 would have already graduated from a GDL program. Those who do not yet have a driver’s license will not be subject to GDL (except those residing in New Jersey) if they do apply for a driver’s license in the future. Since they are not currently within the GDL system and are not faced with the prospect of entering it in the future, 18- to 20-year-olds may be more able to assess its merits than younger teens still within the GDL system or faced with the prospect of entering it in the future. For example, in a previous survey of young people ages 15-18, only 21 percent of 15-year-olds, but 59 percent of 18-year-olds approved of having a minimum age of 16 for obtaining a learner permit (Williams, 2011). It is clear from the results of the current study that 18- to 20-year-olds favor at least some aspects of more comprehensive GDL systems. For example, many favored older minimum ages for licensure than are presently found in the vast majority of U.S. states. There was strong support for night driving restrictions and passenger restrictions in general; however, support was somewhat weaker for variations of these that are regarded by experts as key elements of a comprehensive GDL system, such as a passenger restriction that allows no more than one teenage passenger or a night restriction beginning as early as 10 PM.

Table 6 compares the attitudes of respondents in the current study (ages 18-20) to those in a study of young people ages 15-18 conducted in 2010 (Williams, 2011) and to a sample of parents of children ages 15-18 conducted in 2010 (Williams, Braitman, & McCartt, 2011). It is clear that the 18- to 20-year-olds in the current study viewed older ages for obtaining permits and licenses much more favorably than did the 15- to 18-year-olds in the previous study; they actually viewed a minimum age of 17 or older for initial licensure and 18 or older for full licensure more favorably than did the parents of children ages 15-18. The respondents in the current study viewed requiring new drivers to hold their learner permit

for at least a full year and requiring at least 50 hours of supervised driving practice more favorably than did the 15- to 18-year-olds in the previous study, but less favorably than parents did. Similarly, the 15- to 18-year-olds were least likely to favor passenger restrictions, the respondents in the current study were more likely to favor them, and the parents were the most likely to favor passenger restrictions. The respondents in the current study were about as likely as the 15- to 18-year-olds to favor night restrictions, with parents being substantially more likely to favor them. Note, however, that differences observed here between the attitudes of 15- to 18-year-olds, 18- to 20-year-olds, and parents cannot be attributed definitively to age or experience with GDL. The survey reported in Williams (2011) was conducted 19 months before the survey conducted for the current study, and the survey reported in Williams, Braitman, & McCartt (2011) was conducted approximately two years before the survey for the current study. In addition, slight differences in question wording and response options could have elicited different responses.

Table 6. Support for various licensing policies for new drivers in samples of young people ages 15-18, ages 18-20, and parents of children ages 18-20.

	Ages 15-18 (Williams, 2011)	Ages 18-20 (This Study)	Parents of children ages 15-18 (Williams, Braitman, & McCartt, 2011)
	% Favor		
Learner permit: minimum age 16+	46	62	66
Initial license: minimum age 17+	27	58	53
Full license: minimum age 18+	30	61	53
Learner permit period: 12+ months	34	46	60
Supervised practice required: 50+ hours	49	56	60
Passenger restriction	57	77	89
Night restriction	78	77	90

A limitation of this study is that it relied on respondents to report accurately the age at which they first obtained their driver license. Some stated that they did not remember, and others may have remembered incorrectly. However, the authors believe that even if respondents did not remember the exact age in years and months at which they obtained their license, most would have at least remembered whether it was before or after they turned 18, and thus that the main finding of this study—that only 54 percent of young people obtained a driver's license before their 18th birthday—is unlikely to be biased by a large amount.

Another limitation is that although nationally representative, the results of this study should not be construed as representative of the situation in any given state. Substantial regional variation was observed. Because the sample was designed to be representative of the young adult population nationwide, 52 percent of all respondents were from only nine states, while nine other states were represented by three or fewer respondents each, accurately reflecting the distribution of the population of the United States.

Conclusion

Most young people do not obtain a driver's license as soon as they are eligible to do so; fewer than half are licensed within one year of reaching their state's minimum age for licensure, and barely more than half are licensed before they turn 18 years old. Large social and economic disparities in licensure were identified: young people who described themselves as black or Hispanic or who were from low-income households were much less likely than other respondents to have been licensed before age 18. There was little evidence that those who delayed licensure did so for the purpose of avoiding the requirements of their state's GDL system. However, given the large proportion of drivers who do not become licensed until after they turn 18, further research is needed to investigate the safety impact of obtaining a license at older vs. younger ages as well as to identify specific risk factors for older novice drivers and ways to address them.

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PewResearchCenter



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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

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About the Pew Hispanic Center

The Pew Hispanic Center is a nonpartisan research organization that seeks to improve public understanding of the diverse Hispanic population in the United States and to chronicle Latinos' growing impact on the nation. It does not take positions on policy issues. The Center is part of the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" based in Washington, D.C., and it is funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts, a Philadelphia-based public charity. All of the Center's reports are available at www.pewhispanic.org.

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About the Report

The 2012 National Survey of Latinos (NSL) focuses on Latinos views and attitudes about the 2012 presidential election. The survey was conducted from September 7 through October 4, 2012, in all 50 states and the District of Columbia among a randomly selected, nationally representative sample of 1,765 Latino adults, 903 of whom say they are registered to vote. The survey was conducted in both English and Spanish on cellular as well as landline telephones. The margin of error for the full sample is plus or minus 3.2 percentage points. The margin of error for the registered voter sample is plus or minus 4.6 percentage points.

Interviews were conducted for the Pew Hispanic Center by Social Science Research Solutions (SSRS).

This report was written by Associate Director Mark Hugo Lopez and Research Associate Ana Gonzalez-Barrera. Paul Taylor provided editorial guidance. The authors thank Paul Taylor, Scott Keeter, Leah Christian, D’Vera Cohn, Michael Dimock, Richard Fry, Cary Funk, Rakesh Kochhar, Luis Lugo, Jessica Martinez, Rich Morin, Seth Motel, Kim Parker, Jeffrey S. Passel, Eileen Patten, Antonio Rodriguez and Greg Smith for guidance on the development of the survey instrument. Taylor provided comments on earlier drafts of the report. Motel, Patten, Martinez and Parker number-checked the report text and topline. Marcia Kramer was the copy editor.

A Note on Terminology

The terms “Latino” and “Hispanic” are used interchangeably in this report.

References to other races and ethnicities are to the non-Hispanic components of those populations. “Asian” does not include Pacific Islanders.

The terms “unauthorized immigrants” and “illegal immigrants” are used interchangeably in this report, as are the terms “unauthorized immigration” and “illegal immigration.”

“Native born” refers to persons who are U.S. citizens at birth, including those born in the United States, Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories and those born abroad to parents at least one of whom was a U.S. citizen.

“Foreign born” refers to persons born outside of the United States, Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories to parents neither of whom was a U.S. citizen.

“Foreign-born U.S. citizens” refers to persons who indicate they are “foreign born” and U.S. citizens. The terms “foreign-born U.S. citizens” and “naturalized U.S. citizens” are used interchangeably in this report.

“Foreign-born legal residents” refers to persons who indicate they are foreign born and who say they have a green card or have been approved for one.

“Foreign born who are not legal residents and not U.S. citizens” refers to persons who indicate they are foreign born and who say they do not have a green card and have not been approved for one.

Language dominance is a composite measure based on self-described assessments of speaking and reading abilities. “Spanish-dominant” persons are more proficient in Spanish than in English, i.e., they speak and read Spanish “very well” or “pretty well” but rate their English-speaking and reading ability lower. “Bilingual” refers to persons who are proficient in both English and Spanish. “English-dominant” persons are more proficient in English than in Spanish.

“Eligible voters” refers to persons ages 18 and older who are U.S. citizens, regardless of whether they are registered to vote.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

“Battleground states” were identified by the Pew Research Center using state ratings in September from The Cook Political Report, MSNBC, The New York Times, Real Clear Politics, Karl Rove, CNN, Pollster.com and The Washington Post. These states are Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin.

“Photo ID states” are those classified by the National Conference of State Legislatures ([2012](#)) as requiring photo identification in order to vote. For the current presidential election, photo ID laws are in place in these states: Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, New Hampshire, South Dakota and Tennessee.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Overview

Latino registered voters prefer President Barack Obama over Republican challenger Mitt Romney by 69% to 21% and express growing satisfaction with the direction of the nation and the state of their personal finances but are somewhat less certain than non-Hispanics that they will vote in this election, according to a new nationwide survey of 1,765 Latinos. The survey was conducted from September 7 to October 4, 2012, by the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center.

Obama's current lead over Romney among Hispanics has barely budged throughout the 2012 campaign and is larger than in the 2008 election, when he received 67% of the Hispanic vote to 31% for Republican John McCain ([Lopez, 2008](#)).

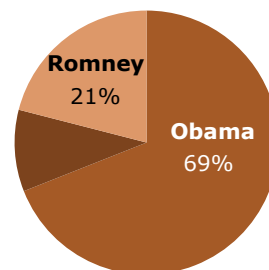
The new survey also finds a sharp rise in the past year in the share of Latinos who identify the Democratic Party as the one that has more concern for Latinos. Some 61% say this now, up from 45% in 2011. Just 10% say this about the Republican Party, down from 12% in 2011.

The Latino electorate is growing in size and importance. Today some 23.7 million Hispanics are eligible to vote, an increase of more than 4 million since 2008. Hispanics now account for a record 11.0% of the nation's eligible electorate, up from 9.5% in 2008 ([Lopez, Motel and Patten, 2012](#)).

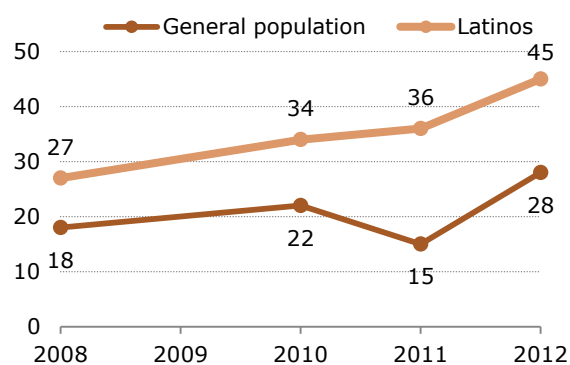
Figure 1
Latinos and the 2012 Presidential Election

% of registered voters

Support for Obama is strong ...

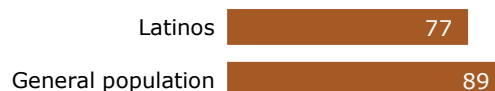


... satisfaction with the nation's direction is rising ...



... but Latinos are not quite as certain as the general public that they will vote in the election

Share saying "absolutely certain" to vote in election



Note: N=903 for Hispanic registered voters; N=2,424 for all registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding. Unlabeled slice in top panel is "other/not voting/don't know/refused."

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, September 2012

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

With the turnout rate of eligible Latinos voters historically lagging behind that of other groups, the new survey finds that 77% of Latino registered voters say they are “absolutely certain” they will vote this year. By comparison, 89% of all registered voters say the same in a separate Pew Research Center survey (2012b) of the general public taken at the same time.

Likewise, 61% of Latino registered voters say they have thought “quite a lot” about the upcoming presidential election, compared with 70% of registered voters in the general public.

At the same time, however, fully two-thirds (67%) of Latino adults say they believe the Latino vote will have a “major impact” on determining who wins this year’s election.

Latinos and State Photo ID Laws

One recent development that could potentially have an impact on the Latino turnout rate is the passage of state laws that require voters to show photo identification in order to cast a ballot. This year 11 states—Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, New Hampshire, South Dakota and Tennessee—have such laws in effect.¹ Together, these states are home to 15% of all Latino eligible voters.²

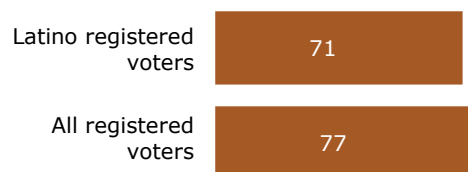
According to the new survey, fully 97% of all Latino registered voters—as well as a nearly identical 95% of Latino registered voters in those 11 states—say they are confident they have the identification they will need to vote on Election Day.

Figure 2
State Photo ID Laws
(%)

Voters are confident they have the ID needed to vote in their state ...



And there is broad support for state photo ID laws among registered voters



Note: N=903 for Hispanic registered voters; N=2,424 for all registered voters

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, September 2012

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¹ For more details on voter identification laws, see the National Conference of State Legislatures (2012).

² Based on Pew Hispanic Center analysis of the 2012 August Current Population Survey.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

The survey also finds broad support among Latino registered voters for voter photo ID laws; 71% favor them, nearly as high a share as among the general public (77%).

Top Issues among Latino Registered Voters

Education, jobs and the economy, and health care are the top issues for Hispanic registered voters. Some 55% of registered voters say the issue of education is extremely important to them, followed by 54% who cite jobs and the economy, and 50% who cite health care. These three top issues are the same as those cited by Hispanic registered voters in December 2011 ([Lopez, Gonzalez-Barrera and Motel, 2011](#)).

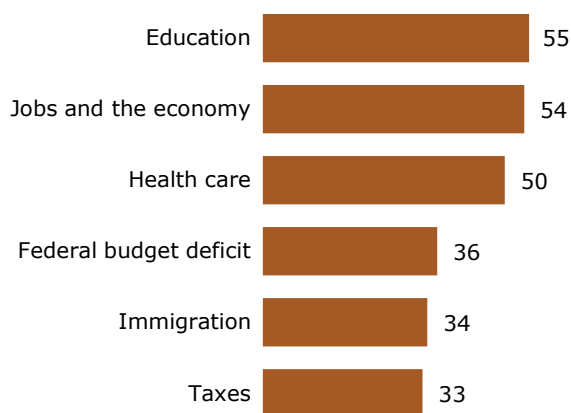
About a third (34%) of Hispanic registered voters say immigration is extremely important to them personally; similar shares say the same about the federal budget deficit (36%) and taxes (33%).

This report is based on a nationally representative bilingual telephone survey of 1,765 Latino adults, including 903 registered voters. The margin of error for the full sample is plus or minus 3.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level; for registered voters, the margin of error is plus or minus 4.6 percentage points. The survey was largely conducted before the first presidential debate, which occurred on October 3, 2012. For a full description of the survey methodology, see Appendix B.

Figure 3

Top Issues among Latino Registered Voters: Education, Jobs and Health Care

(% who say ... is "extremely important")



Note: N=903 Hispanic registered voters.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Among the report's other findings:

The Presidential Horse Race and Party Affiliation

- In the nine so-called battleground states in the presidential election—Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin³—Obama holds a 65% to 23% lead over Romney among Latino registered voters. In the non-battleground states, Obama's lead is 70% to 21%.
- Obama holds a 72% to 22% lead over Romney among Hispanic registered voters who say they are “absolutely certain they will vote” this year. Among Hispanic registered voters who say they may vote, Obama's lead over Romney is smaller—66% to 20%.
- Across nearly all major demographic groups of Latino registered voters—by age, gender, educational attainment, language use and immigrant status—Obama holds a greater than 2-1 lead over Romney.
- Democrats hold a widening advantage over Republicans among Latino registered voters in party affiliation. Seven-in-ten (70%) Latino registered voters say they identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party, while 22% say the same about the Republican Party. In 2008, this margin was 65% to 26% ([Lopez and Minushkin, 2008](#)).

Importance of the Latino Vote

- Two-thirds (67%) of adult Latinos say the Latino vote will have a major impact in determining who wins the 2012 presidential election.
- Foreign-born Hispanics are more likely than the native born to say the Latino vote will have a major impact on this year's election—72% versus 62%.

³ Battleground states were identified by the Pew Research Center using ratings for each state in September from The Cook Political Report, MSNBC, The New York Times, Real Clear Politics, Karl Rove, CNN, Pollster.com and The Washington Post. The ratings by these organizations yield nine battleground states (rated as tossup or lean Republican or Democratic) and 41 safe states plus the District of Columbia.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Approval of Obama's New Policy on Unauthorized Immigrant Youth

- Nearly nine-in-ten (89%) adult Latinos say they approve of President Obama's recently announced policy that allows unauthorized immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children to remain in the country and apply for temporary work permits if they meet certain conditions. Among Latino registered voters, 86% say they approve of the program.
- Three-in-ten (31%) Hispanic adults say they know someone who has applied for the new deferred action program. Among Hispanic registered voters, 26% say they know someone who has applied for the program.
- One-in-four (26%) Hispanic adults say they personally know someone who has been deported or detained by the federal government for immigration reasons in the past 12 months. Among Hispanic registered voters, 22% say the same.

Personal Finances and the State of the Nation

- About four-in-ten (42%) Hispanic registered voters say their personal finances are in "excellent" or "good" shape, up from 31% who said that in 2011. Among registered voters in the general public, some 48% rate their finances as excellent or good, up from 42% last year.
- Most Hispanics are optimistic about their financial futures. Seven-in-ten Hispanics (73%) and Hispanic registered voters (70%) say they expect their family's financial situation will improve in the next year.
- Hispanic registered voters are more upbeat than the general public about the overall state of the nation. Some 45% say they are satisfied with the direction of the nation, compared with 28% of all registered voters. Both figures have risen in the past year.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Latinos and the 2012 Presidential Election

The Presidential Campaign and Views of the Political Parties

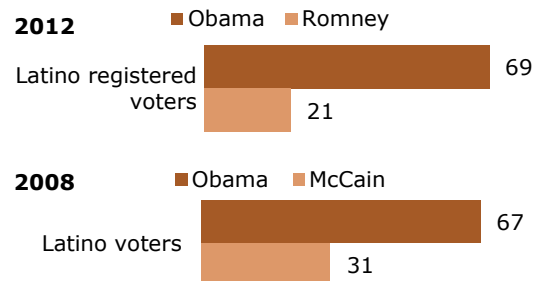
President Barack Obama holds a 3-to-1 lead over Mitt Romney among Latino registered voters. According to the new Pew Hispanic survey, 69% of Latino registered voters say they would vote for Obama if the election were held today, while 21% say they would support Romney. This is similar to the margin among Latinos in the 2008 presidential election, when Obama won two-thirds (67%) of the Latino vote to Republican John McCain's 31% ([Lopez, 2008](#)).

The new survey also finds that a rising share of Latino voters say that the Democratic Party has more concern for Latinos than does the Republican Party. Today 61% of Latino registered voters say this, up from 45% in 2011. This is the highest level recorded in Pew Hispanic surveys since 2002.

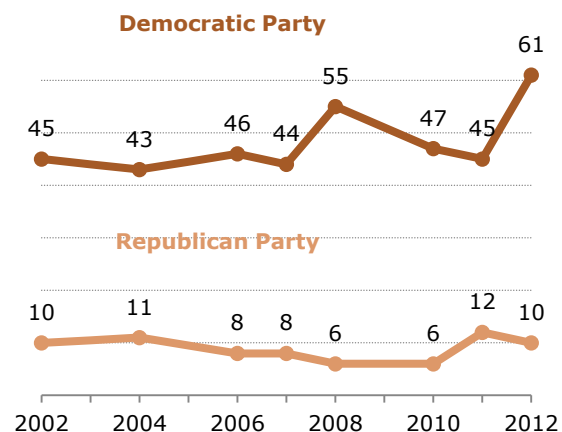
By contrast, just 10% of Hispanic registered voters say the Republican Party has more concern for Hispanics than the Democratic Party, down slightly from 2011 when 12% said the same.

Among Latino registered voters who identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party, 92% say they will vote for Obama and 4% say they will vote for Romney. Among those who identify with or lean toward the Republican Party, 78% say they will vote for Romney and

Figure 4
Obama Holds Wide Lead among Latino Registered Voters ...
(%)



... And More Latino Registered Voters Say the Democratic Party Has More Concern for Latinos



Notes: For the upper panel, N=903, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; voluntary responses of "Other candidate," "Will not vote," and "Don't know" and "Refused" are not shown. Results for 2008 from national exit polls. For the lower panel, voluntary responses of "No difference," "Don't know" and "Refused" are not shown.

Source: For 2012: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; for 2008, National Election Pool National Exit Poll ([Lopez, 2008](#))

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

15% say they will vote for Obama. Only 9% of Latino registered voters do not identify with or lean toward either the Democratic Party or the Republican Party. Among them, 24% say they will vote for Obama while 16% say they will vote for Romney and the remainder say they will vote for another candidate or don't know.

In addition, Obama holds a wider advantage over Romney among Hispanic registered voters who say they are satisfied with the direction of the country than those who say they are dissatisfied with the direction of the country. Among those who are satisfied with the direction of the country, Obama leads Romney 80% to 13%. By contrast, among those who are not satisfied with the direction of the country, Obama still leads Romney, but by a smaller margin—58% versus 30%.

Among Latino registered voters who are Spanish dominant, Obama's lead over Romney is 59 percentage points. Among those who are bilingual, Obama

Table 1

Voter Preference, by Demographic Group

% of Latino registered voters

	Obama	Romney	Advantage
All	69	21	O +48
Gender			
Female	70	20	O +49
Male	68	23	O +46
Age			
18-29	78	16	O +62
30-49	65	24	O +41
50-64	67	20	O +47
65+	73	18	O +55
Educational attainment			
Less than high school	81	12	O +69
High school graduate	67	18	O +49
Some college or more	67	25	O +41
Household income			
Less than \$30,000	73	16	O +57
\$30,000-\$74,999	74	17	O +57
\$75,000 or more	59	36	O +23
Nativity			
Native born	69	22	O +48
Foreign born	69	21	O +48
Language			
English dominant	64	24	O +40
Bilingual	71	21	O +50
Spanish dominant	74	16	O +59
Origin			
Mexican	67	22	O +45
Non-Mexican	71	20	O +51
Likelihood to vote			
Absolutely certain	72	22	O +51
May vote	66	20	O +46
Satisfaction with country's direction			
Satisfied	80	13	O +68
Dissatisfied	58	30	O +28
Battleground states			
In battleground state	65	23	O +42
Not in battleground state	70	21	O +49
Obama deferred action program			
Know someone who has applied	74	20	O +54
Do not know someone who has applied	67	22	O +45
Know someone detained or deported			
Yes	66	24	O +42
No	70	21	O +49

Notes: N=903. Includes respondents who say they would vote for Obama or Romney or lean toward Obama or Romney. Responses of "Other candidate," "Will not vote," "Don't know" and "Refused" are not shown. "Advantage" column computed before rounding.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

still leads over Romney, but by a smaller margin of 50 percentage points. And among English-dominant Hispanic registered voters, Obama is favored by a majority, but by a smaller margin of 40 percentage points.

Among Latino registered voters who say they are absolutely certain to vote, Obama's lead over Romney is wider (72% versus 22%) than it is among those say they are not absolutely certain if they will vote (66% versus 20%).

Recently the Obama administration issued an order that allows some unauthorized young immigrants to stay in the country and apply for temporary work permits. Among Latino registered voters who know someone who has applied for the program, support for Obama is stronger (74%) than it is among those who do not know anyone who has applied (67%).

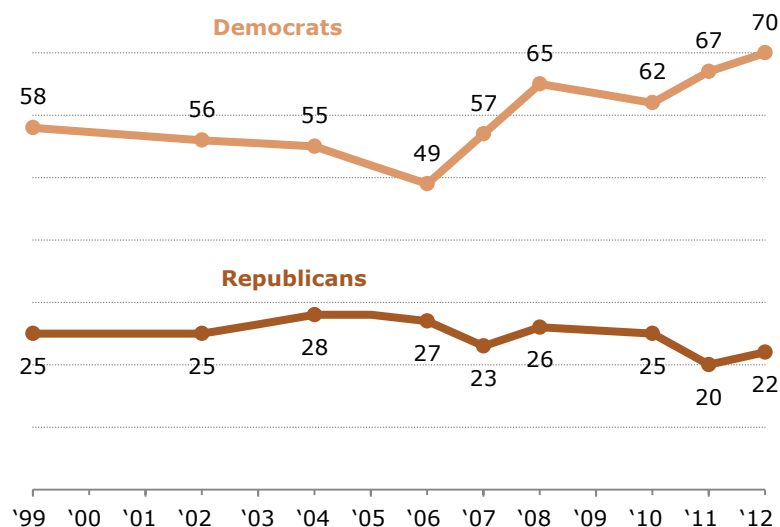
Party Affiliation among Hispanic Registered Voters

Partisan allegiance to the Democratic Party among Hispanic registered voters is at its highest level since at least 1999. According to the Pew Hispanic survey, seven-in-ten (70%) Hispanic registered voters say they identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party while 22% say the same about the Republican Party.

Across demographic groups of Latino registered voters, identification with the Democratic Party is strong. For more details, see Appendix A.

Figure 5

Party Affiliation among Hispanic Registered Voters (%)



Notes: For 2012, N=903. For all years, includes respondents who say they consider themselves Democrat or Republican or lean toward the Democratic Party or the Republican Party. Responses of "Neither," "Other," "Don't know" and "Refused" are not shown.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2002-2012 National Surveys of Latinos; Washington Post/Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard University, 1999 National Survey on Latinos in America

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

The Impact of the Latino Vote in 2012

Much has been made of the growing size of the Latino electorate. This election cycle, nearly 24 million Hispanics are eligible to vote, a record number ([Lopez, Motel and Patten, 2012](#)). And given this year's battleground map, Hispanics may play a role in several key states, including Colorado, Florida, Nevada, North Carolina and Virginia.

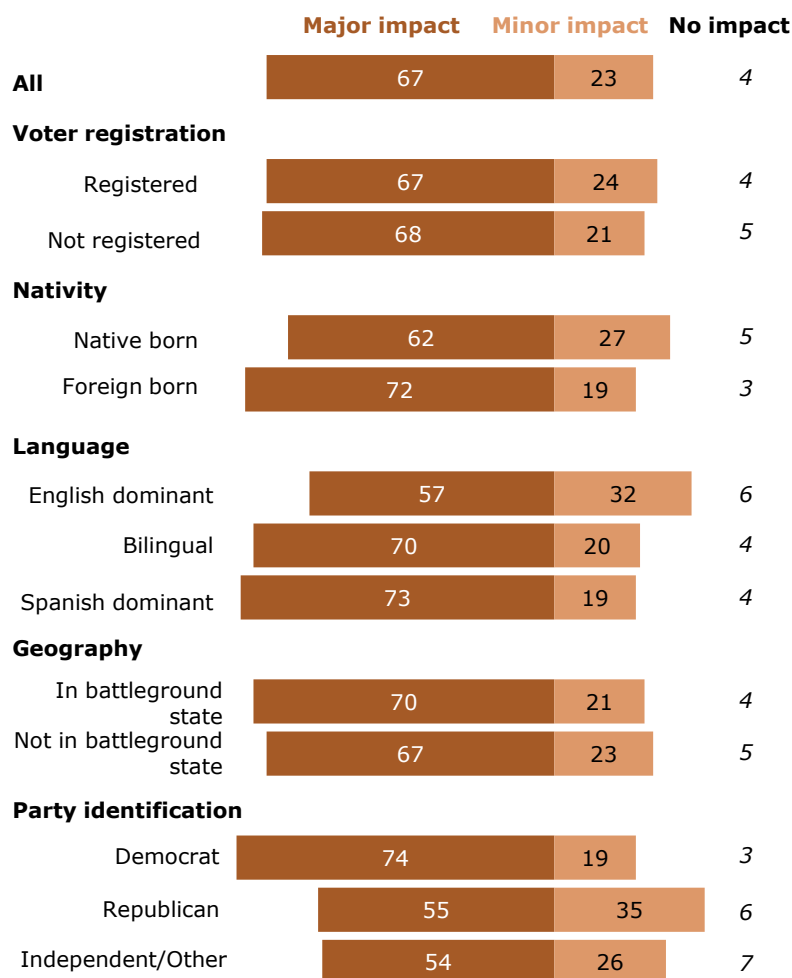
How do Latinos themselves see their role in this year's election? The Pew Hispanic survey asked Latinos whether the Latino vote will have a "major impact," "minor impact" or "no impact at all" in determining who wins the 2012 presidential election. Overall, the assessment is positive.

Among all Hispanics, two-thirds (67%) say the Latino vote will have a major impact this year and 23% say it will have a minor impact. Among Hispanic registered voters, 67% say the Hispanic vote will have a major impact this year while 24% say it will have a minor impact and 8% say it will have no impact at all or say they don't know.

Figure 6

How Much Will Latinos Influence the Election's Outcome?

(% of Latinos)



Notes: N=1,765. Responses of "Don't know" and "Refused" not shown.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

The view that the Hispanic vote will have a major impact on the outcome of this year's presidential election is especially high among immigrant Hispanics. Among them, 72% say the Hispanic vote will have a major impact in this year's election. By contrast, fewer—though still a majority—of the native born say the same, 62%.

Some 73% of Spanish-dominant and 70% of bilingual Latinos say the Latino vote will have a major impact this year. Among English-dominant Latinos, 57% say the same.

Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say the Latino vote will have a major impact on the election. Three-fourths (74%) of Democrats say this, compared with 55% of Republicans.

Those who have thought about the election “quite a lot” are more likely than those who have not given the election as much thought to say the Latino vote will have a major impact—76% versus 60%.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Latino Voter Interest and Engagement

The Hispanic electorate has grown in size and importance. Today, the number of Hispanics eligible to vote in the nation's elections has reached a record 23.7 million, up by more than 4 million since 2008. Overall Hispanics now account for 11% of the nation's 215 million eligible voters—a new high ([Lopez, Motel and Patten, 2012](#)).

However, Hispanic participation in the nation's elections has historically lagged behind that of other groups. This year, the level of participation remains a key unknown about the Latino vote.

Interest in the 2012 Presidential Election

When it comes to interest in this year's election, the new survey reveals that 61% of Latino registered voters say they have thought “quite a lot” about the coming presidential election. This is slightly below the level of interest among all registered voters, which stands at 70% ([Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2012b](#)).

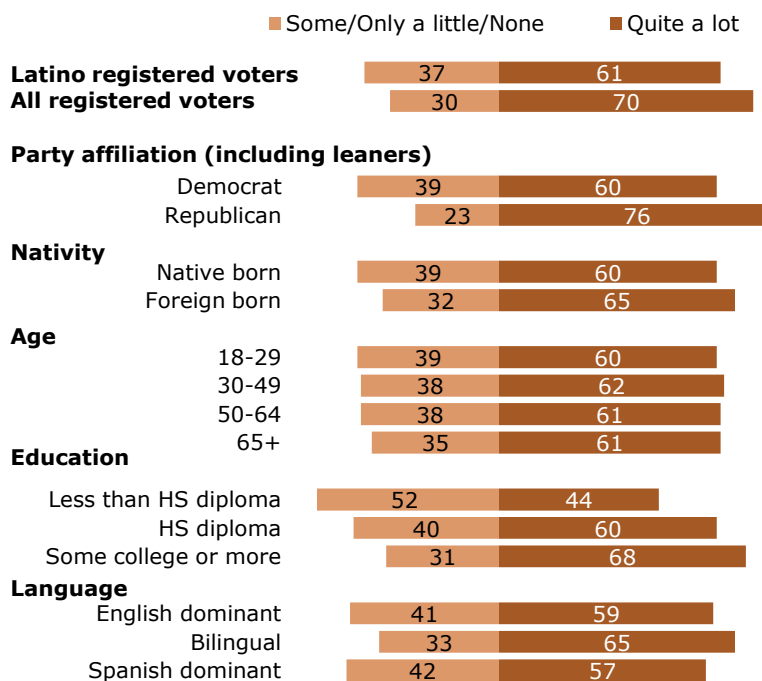
Among nearly all subgroups of Hispanic registered voters, majorities say they have given the election “quite a lot of thought,” though some have done so more than others.

Three-in-four (76%)
Republican Latino registered

Figure 7

Thought Given to the 2012 Election

(% of registered voters who say they have given the coming presidential election ... thought.)



Notes: N=903, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; N=2,424. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, September 2012.

Source: For Latino registered voters: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; for all U.S. registered voters: Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, September 2012

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

voters say they have given the coming election “quite a lot of thought,” a higher share than that among Democratic Latino registered voters (60%).

Latino registered voters who are foreign born have given the election somewhat more thought than those who are native born—65% versus 60%.

Other differences are also evident. Latino registered voters who have less than a high school diploma are less engaged than those who have at least a high school diploma. Fewer than half (44%) of those with less than a high school diploma have given the election “quite a lot of thought,” compared with 60% of high school graduates and 68% of those with at least some college experience.

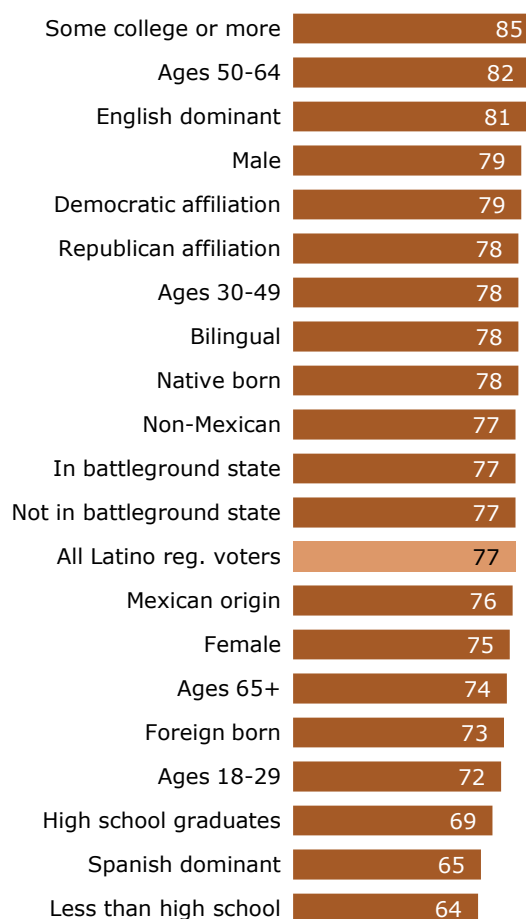
Intent to Vote

Latino registered voters are less likely than all registered voters to say they’ll vote in this year’s election. Three-in-four (77%) Latino registered voters say they are “absolutely certain” they will vote, while 89% of all registered voters say the same ([Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2012b](#)).

Among Hispanic registered voters, the most likely to say they are “absolutely certain” they will vote in this year’s presidential election are those with at least some college education (85%), those ages 50 to 64 (82%) and those who are English dominant (81%). Meanwhile, Hispanic registered voters who are the least likely to say they are “absolutely certain” they will vote are those who have not completed high school (64%), those who are Spanish dominant (65%) and high school graduates (69%).

Figure 8
Who Is Likely to Vote, among Latino Registered Voters

(% who say they are “absolutely certain” they will vote)



Note: N=903.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Voter ID Laws and the Latino Electorate

Since 2011, many states have either passed or considered passing laws that would require potential voters to show official photo identification before voting on Election Day. Currently, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures ([2012](#)), 11 states—Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, New Hampshire, South Dakota and Tennessee—have such laws in effect for 2012. These developments could have an impact on Latino voter turnout. Together, these states hold 15% of all Latino eligible voters.⁴

According to the Pew Hispanic survey, nearly all (97%) Hispanic registered voters say they are confident they have the identification they need to cast a ballot; in the 11 states that require photo identification, 95% of Hispanic registered voters are confident they have the necessary ID. Confidence is equally high among the general public; 98% of all registered voters say they are confident they have the identification they need to vote this year.

Confidence in having the ID needed to vote is high across all demographic groups of Hispanic registered voters. However, among those who are eligible to vote (an adult U.S. citizen) but are not registered to vote, fewer (87%)—though still a large majority—are confident they have the identification necessary to cast a vote in their states.

This finding is reflected in the share of Latinos who say they have a valid state-issued driver's license or photo identification. Among registered voters, 93% say they have a valid state-issued ID. By contrast, 75% of eligible voters who are not registered say they have a valid state-issued ID.

Figure 9
Registered Voters Confident They Have the ID They Need to Vote
(%)



Notes: N=903 for Latino registered voters; N=2,424 for all registered voters

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, September 2012

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⁴ Based on Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2012 August Current Population Survey.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Majority Support for Photo ID Laws

When it comes to Latino attitudes toward voter ID laws, the Pew Hispanic survey finds broad support for these laws, especially among foreign-born Hispanics. Overall, 71% of Hispanic registered voters say voters should be required to show an official identification to be allowed to vote on Election Day.

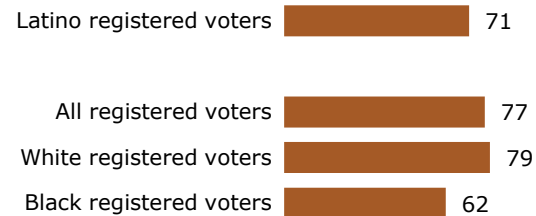
Among the general public, a slightly greater share of registered voters says the same—77%. But among all registered voters, some differences are evident. For example, nearly eight-in-ten (79%) white registered voters support photo ID laws. By contrast, a smaller share of black registered voters support such laws—62%.

Among Latino registered voters, support for photo ID laws is highest among Republicans (87%), those whose highest educational attainment is a high school diploma (78%) and the foreign born (77%). It is lowest among Latino registered voters ages 18 to 29 (64%) and the English dominant (65%). However, across all major demographic groups of Latino registered voters, a majority support photo ID laws.

Figure 10

Majority Support for Photo ID Laws

(% saying voters should be required to show official photo ID before they vote...)



Note: N=903 for Hispanic registered voters; N=1,263 for all registered voters

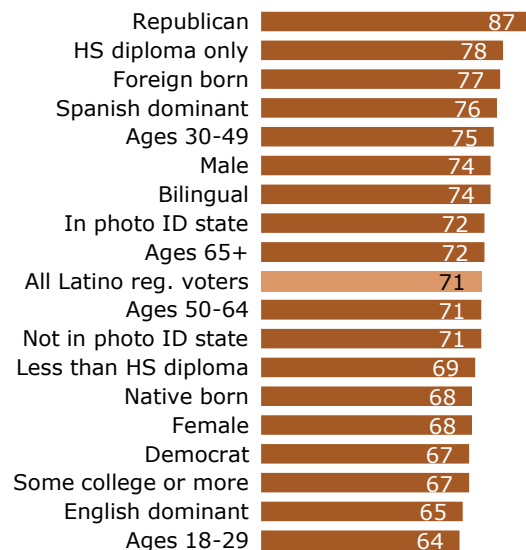
Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, September 2012

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Figure 11

Should Voters Be Required to Show an Official Photo ID to Vote?

(% saying voters should be required to show official photo ID before they vote...)



Note: N=903 for Latino registered voters.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Knowledge of Photo ID Laws

With so much discussion about voter and photo ID laws this year, many Hispanics believe their state requires a photo ID to vote, even if it does not. According to the survey, nearly two-thirds (62%) of Hispanic registered voters say their state requires a photo ID to vote. Among Hispanic registered voters who live in states where a photo ID is required, 76% say their state requires this. Among those who live in non-photo-ID states, 59% say their state requires a photo ID.⁵ This pattern is similar to that of all registered voters among the general public ([Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2012a](#)).

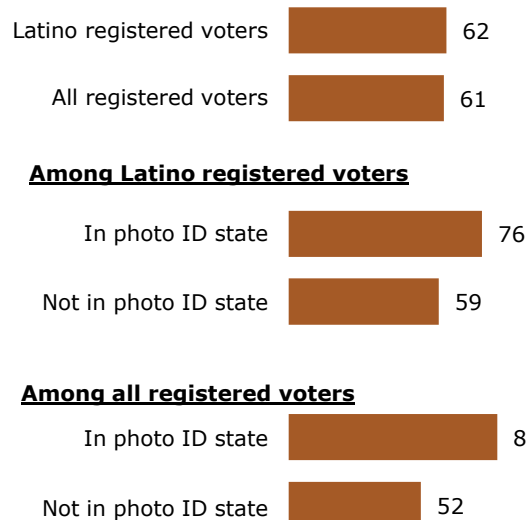
However, among all registered voters, blacks are more likely than whites to believe their state requires a photo ID to vote—71% versus 58%.

Some 27% of black eligible voters live in the 11 states that currently require a photo ID, a share higher than that for Hispanics (15%) or for whites (22%).⁶

Figure 12

Knowledge of Photo ID Laws

(% saying state requires photo ID to vote...)



Note: N=903 for Hispanic registered voters; N=1,263 for all registered voters

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, September 2012

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⁵ Some states that do not require a photo ID to vote also have other voter identification laws in place. And in some states that had passed legislation in 2011, implementation of those laws has been postponed or the laws have been struck down.

⁶ Based on Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2012 August Current Population Survey.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Growing Satisfaction with the Nation's Direction

Latino registered voters have grown more optimistic about the country's direction since 2011. According to the Pew Hispanic survey, 45% of Latino registered voters say they are satisfied with the nation's direction today, up from 36% in 2011⁷ and 27% in 2008.⁸ This trend mirrors that seen among all registered voters. Among them, overall, 28%⁹ say they are satisfied with the nation's direction, up from 15% in 2011.¹⁰

In the past year, the unemployment rate among Latinos, and all Americans, has fallen. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, for Latinos, the unemployment rate declined from 11.3% in the third quarter of 2011 to 10.2% in the third quarter of 2012. In September 2012, the unemployment rate among Latinos was 9.9%. This was the lowest rate since December 2008, but still higher than the national unemployment rate of 7.8%.

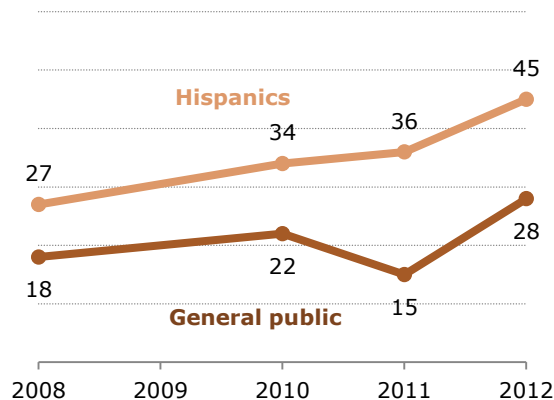
Among Latino registered voters, half (52%) of those who identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party are satisfied with the nation's direction, compared with one-quarter (26%) of those who identify with or lean toward the Republican Party.

Latino registered voters who say they their personal finances are in "excellent" or "good" shape are also more upbeat about the way things are going in the country compared with those who say their financial situation is "only fair" or "poor"—51% versus 40%.

Figure 13

Satisfaction with the Nation's Direction

(% of registered voters saying they are satisfied with the way things are going in the country today)



Sources: For Hispanic registered voters, Pew Hispanic Center, National Survey of Latinos, 2008-2012; for all registered voters, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, July 2008, September 2010, October 2011, July 2012

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⁷ See Lopez, Gonzalez-Barrera, and Motel, 2011.

⁸ See Lopez and Livingston, 2009.

⁹ See Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2012c.

¹⁰ See Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2011.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Improving Personal Finances

Latino registered voters' assessments of their current financial situation have improved since 2011. According to the new survey, 42% of Latino registered voters say their personal financial situation is either "excellent" or "good," compared with 31% who said so in 2011 ([Lopez, Gonzalez-Barrera and Motel, 2011](#)).

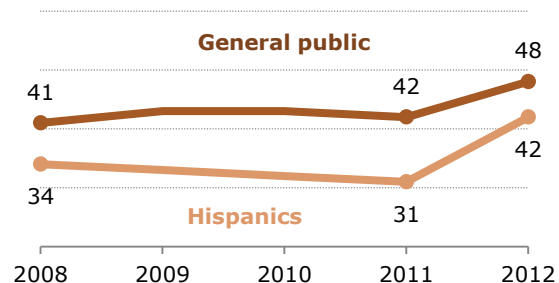
At the same time, the gap between Latino registered voters and all registered voters on their financial assessments has closed. Today, 48% of all registered voters say their current financial situation is "excellent" or "good," six percentage points higher than that of Latino registered voters. By contrast, in 2011, there was an 11 percentage point gap between all registered voters and Latino registered voters who had positive assessments of their personal financial situation (42% versus 31%).

Among Hispanic registered voters, demographic differences exist in their personal financial assessments. For example, Hispanic males rate their personal financial situation better than Hispanic females—48% "excellent" or "good" versus 37%. In addition, Hispanic registered voters with college experience rate their financial situation better than those with lower levels of education. Some 53% of those with at least some college and 38% of those with no more than a high school diploma rate their personal finances as "excellent" or "good." Meanwhile, only 16% of Latinos with less than a high school diploma rate their current financial situation in positive terms.

Figure 14

Assessment of Current Financial Situation Improved

(% of registered voters saying personal financial situation is in "excellent" or "good" shape)



Note: Results for Hispanics of November 2008 are based on a survey with no cellphone sample.

Sources: For Latino registered voters Pew Hispanic Center, 2008 Post-Election National Survey of Latinos, and Pew Hispanic Center, National Survey of Latinos, 2011-2012; for all registered voters, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, December 2008, December 2011, September 2012

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Among Latino registered voters, bilingual Latinos and those who are English dominant rate their financial situation better than those who primarily speak Spanish—50% and 44%, respectively, say their personal financial situation is in “excellent” or “good” shape versus 17% among the Spanish dominant.

Confidence in their Future Financial Situation

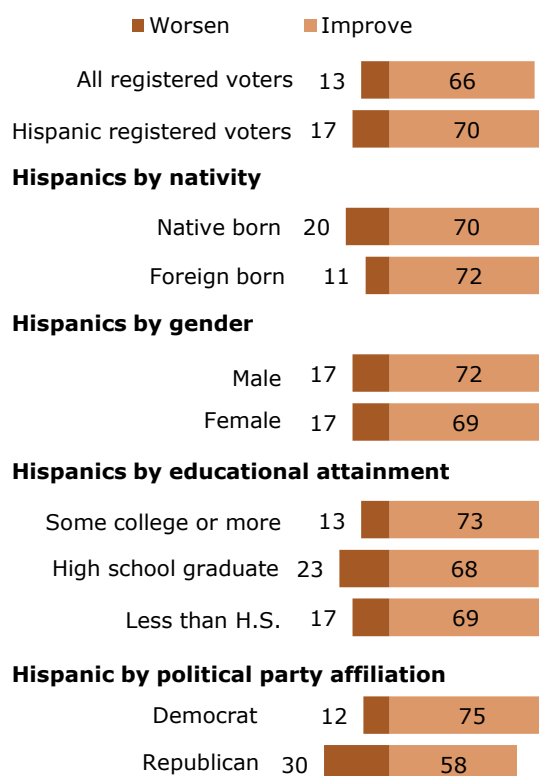
Even though fewer than half of Hispanic registered voters (42%) say their financial situation is currently “excellent” or “good,” they are optimistic about their financial future. Seven-in-ten Hispanic registered voters (70%) believe their financial situation and that of their family will improve in the next year. The general public shares this optimism, with 66% saying they expect their own financial situation and that of their family to improve in the coming year.

Among Latino registered voters, there are some differences of perceptions of finances in the next year by party identification. Democrats are more optimistic about their future financial situation than Republicans—75% versus 58%.

Figure 15

Future Financial Situation

(% of registered voters saying financial situation of self and family will ... in the next year)



Notes: N=903 for Hispanic registered voters; N=1,161 for all registered voters. Responses of “Stay the same” (VOL.), “Don’t know” and “Refused” are not shown.

Sources: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, September 2012

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Top Issues in this Year's Presidential Campaign

The survey finds that education, jobs and the economy, and health care are the top issues for Latinos in this year's presidential campaign. A majority (55%) of Latino registered voters say the issue of education is "extremely important" to them personally. This is followed closely by jobs and the economy (54%) and health care (50%).

Since 2008, these three issues have ranked highly for Hispanic registered voters, though their relative rankings have changed. In 2011, jobs ranked at the top, followed by education and health care ([Lopez, Gonzalez-Barrera and Motel, 2011](#)). In 2010, education ranked at the top, followed by jobs and health care ([Lopez, 2010](#)). In 2008, as well, education ranked at the top, this time followed by the cost of living, health care and jobs ([Lopez and Minushkin, 2008](#)).

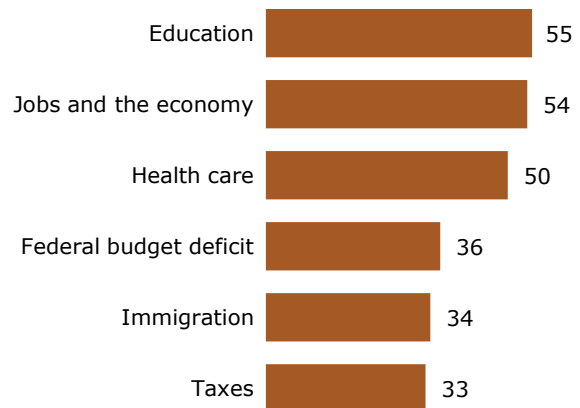
When it comes to immigration, one-third (34%) of Latino registered voters say the issue is "extremely important" to them personally. This is unchanged since 2008 ([Lopez and Minushkin, 2008](#)). This year, Latinos rank two other issues—the federal budget deficit (36%) and taxes (33%)—as important as they rank immigration.

The same three top issues are identified by both Latino registered voters and all Latinos. For all Latinos, fewer than half say that jobs and the economy (47%), education (47%) and health care (44%) are extremely important to them.

Figure 16

Top Issues among Latino Registered Voters: Education, Jobs and Health Care

(% who say ... is "extremely important")



Note: N=903 Hispanic registered voters.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Immigration is as important to all Latinos (33%) as it is to Latino registered voters and ranks ahead of public finance issues such as the federal budget deficit (28%) and taxes (27%), which are identified as “extremely important” by lower shares of all Latinos.

Table 2

Top Issues for Latinos in 2012

(% who say ... is “extremely important”)

	Latino registered voters		All Latinos
Education	55	Jobs and the economy	47
Jobs and the economy	54	Education	47
Health care	50	Health care	44
Federal budget deficit	36	Immigration	33
Immigration	34	Federal budget deficit	28
Taxes	33	Taxes	27

Notes: N=903 for Latino registered voters; N=1,765 for all Latinos.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Latinos and Immigration Policy

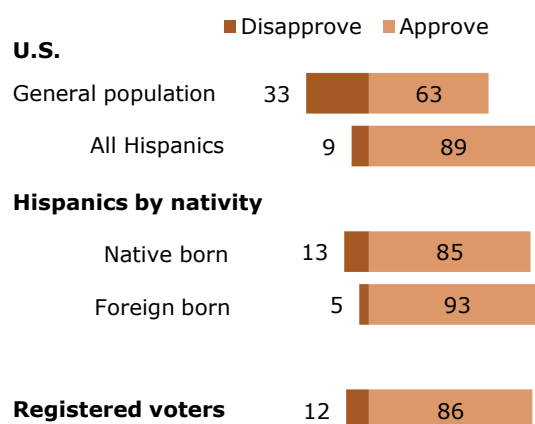
In mid-June 2012, President Barack Obama announced a new program that would shield young unauthorized immigrants from deportation and allow them to apply for temporary but renewable work permits. The program, known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, provides relief from deportation unauthorized immigrants younger than 30 who were brought into the country as children and who are currently enrolled in school or have obtained a high school diploma or GED.¹¹

According to Pew Hispanic Center estimates, up to 1.7 million unauthorized youth could potentially qualify for this program ([Passel and Lopez, 2012](#)), with about 85% of potential beneficiaries being of Hispanic origin. After the first 43 days of the program, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security reported that it had received more than 100,000 applications, with most in the last stages of review and 29 confirmed approvals ([Preston, 2012](#)).

According to the Pew Hispanic survey, fully 89% of all Latinos—and 86% of Latino registered voters—say they approve of this new immigration program. A majority (63%) of the general public also approves of the new deferred action program, though the share that does so is notably lower than it is among Latinos.¹²

Among Latinos, support for the program is widespread. Some 93% of foreign-born Latinos and 85% of the native born say they approve of the program. Additionally, Latinos whose primary language is Spanish have a stronger approval rate of the program (95%) than those who speak

Figure 17
Most Latinos Approve of Obama's Program for Unauthorized Immigrants Brought as Children
(% saying they ...)



Notes: N=1,765 for all Hispanics; and N=903 for Hispanic registered voters. N=1,466 for general population. Responses of "Don't know" and "Refused" are not shown.

Sources: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos; Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, July 2012

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¹¹ For more detailed on the Obama administration's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, see Passel and Lopez ([2012](#)).

¹² See Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, [2012c](#).

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English as their primary language (82%). Among Latino registered voters, fully 95% who identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party approve of the program, while a much smaller majority (60%) of those who identify with or lean toward the Republican Party approve of it. Latino registered voters who believe the Latino vote will have a “major impact” in the election approve of the program by a wider margin than those who believe it will have a “minor impact”—92% versus 71%. Latino registered voters who are satisfied with the country’s direction also have a higher rate of approval of the program than those who are dissatisfied—93% versus 80%.

Many Latinos say they know someone who has applied for the new program. According to the Pew Hispanic survey, three-in-ten (31%) Latino adults say they know someone who has applied or is planning to apply. Among Latino registered voters, 26% say they know someone who might be eligible for the program and has applied or is planning to do so.

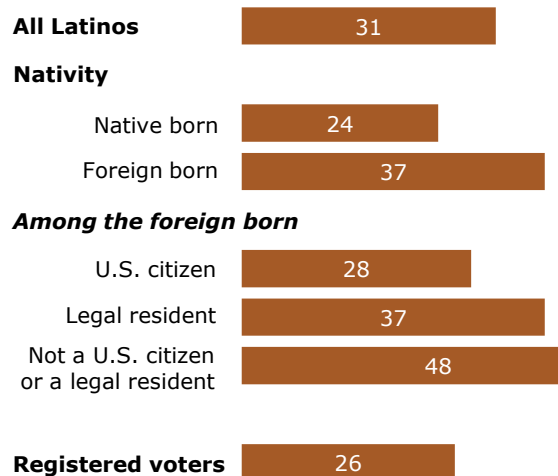
Hispanics who are foreign born are more likely than those who are native born to say they personally know someone who has applied for the program or is planning to—37% versus 24%.

Among the foreign born, those who do not hold U.S. citizenship and are not legal permanent residents are most likely to say they know someone who has applied or is planning to. Almost half (48%) of those who are neither citizens nor residents say they know someone in these circumstances, compared with 37% of foreign-born Latinos who are legal residents and 28% of foreign-born naturalized Latinos.

Figure 18

Do You Know Someone Who Has Applied for this Program?

(% saying they personally know someone who has applied or is planning to apply)



Note: N=1,765 for all Latinos and N=903 for Latino registered voters. Includes responses of “have applied” personally.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos.

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Deportations and Detainments

Deportations¹³ have reached record levels under President Obama, rising to an average of nearly 400,000 per year since 2009 ([U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 2012](#)).¹⁴ In 2011, the latest year for which figures are available, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security reports that 392,000 immigrants were deported. Among them, 97% are Hispanic.

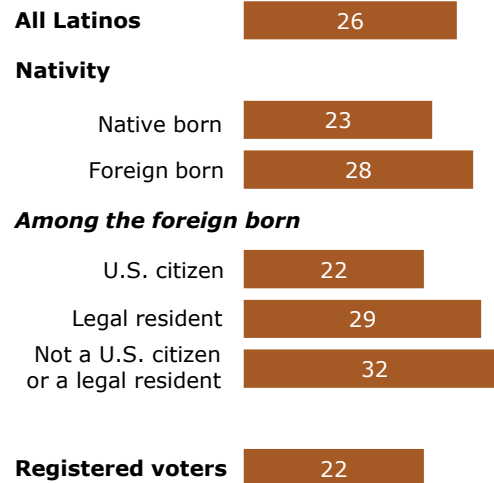
According to the Pew Hispanic survey, one-quarter (26%) of adult Latinos say they personally know someone who has been deported or detained by the federal government in the last year. Among Latino registered voters, 22% say they know someone who has been detained or deported in the past year.

Among immigrant Hispanics who hold U.S. citizenship, 22% say they personally know someone who has been detained or deported by the federal government in the past year. By contrast, three-in-ten legal resident Hispanics (29%) and Hispanics who are foreign born but do not hold U.S. citizenship and are not a legal resident of the U.S. (32%) say they personally know someone who has been detained or deported in the past year.

Figure 19

Do You Know Someone Who Has Been Deported?

(% saying they personally know someone who has been deported or detained by the federal government for immigration reasons in the past 12 months)



Note: N=1,765 for all Latinos and N=903 for Latino registered voters.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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¹³ The U.S. Department of Homeland Security uses the term "removal" rather than "deportations" to describe the actions of its Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to expel a foreign national from the U.S.

¹⁴ In June 2011, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security started implementing a new set of guidelines for processing deportable immigrants, focusing its removal efforts on cases of higher priority to the agency—people who had recently arrived, were convicted criminals or were fugitives ([U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 2011](#)). According to these guidelines, immigrants who lack a criminal record or a prior order of removal and who have ties to their communities or were brought in as children should not be processed for deportation.

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Appendix A: Demographics of Latino Registered Voters

Table A1

Demographics of Latino Registered Voters

(%)

Gender	
Male	49
Female	51
Age	
18-29	29
30-49	34
50-64	21
65+	12
Marital status	
Married/partner	58
Not married	40
Educational attainment	
Less than HS	18
HS graduate	28
Some college or more	53
Household income	
Less than \$30,000	37
\$30,000 to \$74,999	29
\$75,000 or more	20
Nativity	
Native born	72
Foreign born	28
Language	
English dominant	37
Bilingual	47
Spanish dominant	16
Hispanic origin	
Mexican	53
Non-Mexican	46
Party affiliation	
Democrat/Lean Democrat	70
Republican/Lean Republican	22
Other party or no affiliation	9
Thought about election	
Quite a lot	61
Some, only a little, or none	37
Satisfaction with country's direction	
Satisfied	45
Dissatisfied	50

Notes: N=903. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding. Responses of "Don't know" and "Refused" not shown. "Not married" includes those who are separated.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Table A2

Party Affiliation among Latinos, by Demographic Group

(% of registered voters choosing or leaning toward party)

	Democrat/ Lean Democrat	Republican/ Lean Republican
All	70	22
Gender		
Female	72	19
Male	67	24
Age		
18-29	76	18
30-49	65	25
50-64	68	23
65+	71	18
Educational attainment		
Less than high school	75	17
High school graduate	68	20
Some college or more	69	24
Household income		
Less than \$30,000	72	18
\$30,000-\$74,999	75	17
\$75,000 or more	57	39
Nativity		
Native born	70	22
Foreign born	68	21
Language		
English dominant	66	27
Bilingual	70	22
Spanish dominant	77	10
Origin		
Mexican	69	22
Non-Mexican	70	22

Notes: N=903. Includes respondents who say they consider themselves Democrat or Republican or lean toward the Democratic Party or the Republican Party. Responses of "Don't know" and "Refused" are not shown.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Table A3

**Which Party Has More Concern for Hispanics?
By Demographic Group**

(% of Latino registered voters)

	Democratic Party	Republican Party	No Difference
All	61	10	23
Party identification			
Democrat	78	3	15
Republican	23	33	40
Gender			
Male	59	11	25
Female	64	8	22
Age			
18-29	69	7	19
30-49	58	8	31
50-64	59	11	22
65+	68	9	17
Educational attainment			
Less than high school	60	7	28
High school graduate	63	8	21
Some college or more	62	10	24
Household income			
Less than \$30,000	60	7	27
\$30,000-\$74,999	66	6	24
\$75,000 or more	61	14	22
Nativity			
Native born	64	9	22
Foreign born	55	11	26
Language			
English dominant	60	11	22
Bilingual	63	9	24
Spanish dominant	60	8	25
Origin			
Mexican	62	10	22
Non-Mexican	61	10	24
View of Obama's work permit program			
Approve	67	7	22
Disapprove	27	30	36
Know someone who has been detained or deported			
Yes	58	7	30
No	62	10	22
Thought about election			
Quite a lot	63	12	22
Some/little/none	59	6	26
Satisfied with country's direction			
Satisfied	68	7	21
Dissatisfied	56	13	25

Notes: N=903. Responses of "Don't know" and "Refused" are not shown.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center, 2012 National Survey of Latinos

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Appendix B: 2012 National Survey of Latinos Methodology

Results for this study are based on telephone interviews conducted by Social Science Research Solutions (SSRS), an independent research company, among a nationally representative sample of 1,765 Latino respondents ages 18 and older, conducted from September 7 through October 4, 2012. In order to facilitate a more comprehensive analysis of non-Catholic Latinos, the sample includes interviews with an additional 438 non-Catholic respondents, for a total of 967 non-Catholics.

For the full sample, a total of 866 respondents were native born (including Puerto Rico), and 899 were foreign born (excluding Puerto Rico). Of the foreign born, 375 were U.S. citizens, 256 were legal residents, and 264 were neither U.S. citizens nor legal residents. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 3.2 percentage points.

2012 NSL Survey Details

	<i>Sample Size</i>	<i>Design Effect</i>	<i>Margin of Error 95% confidence level</i>
Total Latinos	1,765	1.89	+/-3.2% points
Native born	866	2.01	+/-4.7% points
Foreign born	899	1.79	+/-4.4% points
FB US. citizens	375	1.77	+/-6.7% points
FB Legal residents	256	1.76	+/-8.1% points
FB Not citizens & not legal residents	264	1.78	+/-8.1% points
Registered voters	903	1.97	+/-4.6% points

Note: The design effect is a measure of the extent to which the margin of error for a given sample differs from the theoretical margin of error for a simple random sample of the same size. It reflects the impact of the weighting applied to the data as well as complexities in the sample design.

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For this survey, SSRS used a staff of Spanish-speaking interviewers who, when contacting a household, were able to offer respondents the option of completing the survey in Spanish or English. A total of 805 respondents (46%) were surveyed in Spanish, and 960 respondents (54%) were interviewed in English. Any person ages 18 or older of Latino origin or descent was eligible to complete the survey.

To ensure the highest possible coverage of the eligible population, the study employed a dual-frame landline/cell phone telephone design. The sample consisted of a landline component

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(yielding 880 completed interviews) and a cell phone component (885 interviews)¹⁵. Both the landline and cell phone components consisted of a stratified sampling design, oversampling areas with higher densities of Latino residents. The same sampling plan was used for the main sample and the non-Catholic oversample.

For the landline sampling frame, the sample was run against InfoUSA and other household databases, and phone numbers that matched to known Latino surnames were subdivided into a Surname stratum. The remaining, unmatched and unlisted landline sample was divided into the following mutually exclusive strata, based on Census estimates of the density of the Hispanic population in each: Very High Latino, High Latino, and Medium Latino.

Marketing System Group's (MSG) GENESYS sample generation system was used to generate cell phone sample, which was divided into High and Medium Latino strata. Overall, the study employed eight strata.

Interviews by Strata

	Landline		Cell Phone	
	Total Interviews*	Estimated % among U.S. Population**	Total Interviews*	Estimated % among U.S. Population**
Surname	355 (40.3%)	23.5%		
Very High	176 (20.0%)	17.3%		
High	129 (14.7%)	18.4%	546 (61.7%)	33.7%
Medium	105 (11.9%)	19.5%	215 (24.3%)	33.6%
Low	115 (13.1%)	21.3%	124 (14.0%)	32.7%
Total	880		885	

Notes: *Total interviews includes the prescreened omnibus interviews that were not subject to geographic stratification, **The estimated population breakdown is based on counts from Claritas provided by Marketing System Group (MSG). The over- or under-sampling of strata was corrected in weighting.

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Samples for the low-incidence landline and cell strata were drawn from previously interviewed respondents in SSRS's weekly dual-frame Excel omnibus survey. Respondents who indicated they were Latino on the omnibus survey were eligible to be re-contacted for the present survey. In addition, the incidences in the Very High and Medium landline strata of the non-Catholic oversample were lower than anticipated, so additional interviews with Latinos¹⁶ prescreened from the Excel omnibus survey were used to gather additional responses in these strata. Altogether, a total of 293 previously interviewed respondents (17%) were included in this

¹⁵ According to calculations by the National Center for Health Statistics National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), from July to December 2011, 43.3% of Hispanic adults were living in wireless-only households and 17.0% were in wireless-mostly households (Blumberg and Luke, 2012).

¹⁶ The supplemental Very High and Medium landline sample was not prescreened for religion.

sample.

It is important to note that the existence of a surname stratum does not mean the 2012 National Survey of Latinos was a surname sample design. The sample is RDD, with the randomly selected telephone numbers divided by whether they were found to be associated with or without a Spanish surname. This was done simply to increase the number of strata and thereby increase the ability to meet ethnic targets and ease administration by allowing for more effective assignment of interviewers and labor hours.

A five-stage weighting design was used to ensure an accurate representation of the national Hispanic population.

- An adjustment was made for all persons found to possess both a landline and a cell phone, as they were twice as likely to be sampled as were respondents who possessed only one phone type.
- The sample was corrected for a potential bias associated with re-contacting previously interviewed respondents in certain strata.
- The sample was corrected for the likelihood of within-household selection, which depended upon the likelihood that the respondent's age group would be selected, and within that age group, the particular respondent would be selected.
- The sample was corrected for the over sampling of telephone number exchanges known to have higher densities of Latinos and the corresponding undersampling of exchanges known to have lower densities of Latinos.
- Finally, the data were put through a post-stratification sample balancing routine. The post-stratification weighting utilized national 2012 estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, March Supplement, on gender, age, education, Census region, heritage, years in the U.S., phone status (i.e., cell phone only, cell phone mostly, mixed/landline only/landline mostly) and density of the Latino population. After the data were raked, the weighted data were used to determine the benchmark for a Catholic/non-Catholic parameter, which was used in the second stage of raking.¹⁷

¹⁷ The levels of cell phone only and cell phone mostly households within each ethnic-group used were based on the most recent data available from the National Center for Health Statistics' NHIS as shown in Blumberg and Luke (2012).

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

Appendix C: 2012 National Survey of Latinos Topline

Pew Hispanic Center
2012 National Survey of Latinos
Final Topline
September 7 - October 4, 2012
Total N=1,765

The study was conducted for the Pew Hispanic Center via telephone by Social Science Research Solutions (SSRS), an independent research company. All numbers are percentages. Percentages greater than zero but less than 0.5% are replaced by an asterisk (*). Columns/rows may not total 100% due to rounding.

NA indicates that the answer category was not an option. Unless otherwise noted, all trends reference surveys from the Pew Hispanic Center and all General Population Comparisons reference surveys from the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. For Hispanic registered voter trends, the question used to determine registered voter status was different in surveys from 2010 and earlier.¹⁸ For this survey, a total of 880 respondents were contacted via landline and a total of 885 respondents were contacted on their cellphone; 805 interviews were conducted in Spanish and 960 in English.

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
Total Hispanic respondents	1,765	+/- 3.21% points
Native born (including Puerto Rico)	866	+/- 4.72% points
Foreign born	899	+/- 4.37% points
US citizens	375	+/- 6.73% points
Legal residents	256	+/- 8.12% points
Not citizens and not residents	264	+/- 8.06% points
Registered voters	903	+/- 4.58% points

ASK ALL

- Just to confirm, are you, yourself of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent? (**IF NECESSARY:** such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, Central or South American, Caribbean or some other Latin American background.)
[INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTIONS: IF RESPONDENT SEEMS HESITANT OR HAS AN ACCENT, PROBE FOR HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN.]

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
100	Yes	100	100	100
0	No	0	0	0
0	Don't know (VOL.)	0	0	0
0	Refused (VOL.)	0	0	0
(n=1,765)		(n=866)	(n=899)	(n=903)

(IF Q.1= No, Don't know or Refused, Thank & Terminate. Record as TQ1)

¹⁸ In Sep 2010, Nov 2008 and Jul 2008, the question was: "These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you now registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?" In Mar 2006, the preceding question was asked with the follow-up: "Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote, or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?" In Nov 2007, Jul 2006, Jun 2004 and Jun 2002, the question was: "Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you currently registered to vote at your present address?"

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK ALL

2. The terms Hispanic and Latino are both used to describe people who are of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent. Do you happen to prefer one of these terms more than the other? (**GET ANSWER, THEN ASK:** Which term do you prefer, Hispanic or Latino?)

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
29	Hispanic	28	29	26
13	Latino	11	16	13
57	No Preference (VOL.)	60	54	59
1	Don't know (VOL.)	1	1	1
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*

ASK ALL

3. Now I want to ask you about you and your family's heritage. Are you Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, Salvadoran, or are you and your ancestors from another country? (**IF ANOTHER COUNTRY:** What country is that?) [**INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTIONS:** ACCEPT ONE ANSWER. IF MORE THAN ONE ANSWER GIVEN, ASK: Which do you identify more with?]

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
61	Mexican	58	63	53
9	Puerto Rican	19	*	14
4	Cuban	2	6	5
4	Dominican	3	5	4
4	Salvadoran	2	6	3
1	Other Central American	*	1	1
*	Other South American	*	1	1
15	Other	14	17	18
1	Don't know (VOL.)	1	*	1
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*

Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011^a</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Sep 2009</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Jul 2006</u>	<u>Jun 2004</u>	
61	62	64	62	62	63	64	64	Mexican
9	9	9	10	9	9	11	9	Puerto Rican
4	4	4	4	4	4	10	4	Cuban
4	3	3	5	2	3	1	3	Dominican
4	4	5	5	3	3	1	2	Salvadoran
1	3	4	4	7	6	1	6	Other Central American
*	3	4	4	7	7	2	6	Other South American
15	12	5	6	3	5	5	4	Other
NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Mixed heritage (VOL.)
1	*	1	1	1	*	4	*	Don't know (VOL.)
*	*	*	*	*	*	1	*	Refused (VOL.)

^a Dec 2011 is a trend for comparison. Two heritage countries were accepted.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK ALL

4. Were you born on the island of Puerto Rico, in the United States, or in another country?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
4	Puerto Rico	9	0	7
44	U.S.	91	0	65
52	Another country	*	100	28
*	Don't know (VOL.)	0	*	0
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	0

ASK IF FOREIGN BORN (Q.4=3,D,R)

5. In what country were you born?

[INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTIONS: DO NOT READ LIST. ENTER ONE ONLY.]

		<i>Trends</i>						
<u>Total</u>		<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Sep 2009</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Jul 2006</u>	<u>Jun 2002</u>
1	Argentina	1	*	*	1	1	1	1
0	Barbados	0	0	*	0	0	0	0
*	Belize	*	*	*	*	*	0	*
*	Bolivia	*	0	*	*	*	*	*
*	Brazil	*	*	*	*	*	1	*
*	Chile	*	*	1	*	*	*	*
2	Colombia	4	3	2	4	3	4	4
*	Costa Rica	*	1	1	*	*	1	*
6	Cuba	5	6	6	4	5	4	7
5	Dominican Republic	4	3	7	3	4	4	7
2	Ecuador	3	2	2	1	1	3	1
6	El Salvador	6	6	7	4	5	5	7
0	Falkland Islands	0	0	0	*	0	*	0
3	Guatemala	6	3	2	4	3	4	1
0	Guyana	0	0	0	*	*	*	*
0	Haiti	0	*	*	*	*	0	*
2	Honduras	3	2	2	2	3	1	1
62	Mexico	60	67	63	67	65	66	68
2	Nicaragua	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
*	Panama	1	1	1	1	*	*	*
0	Paraguay	0	*	*	0	*	*	0
3	Peru	2	1	2	1	2	2	1
0	Portugal	*	0	0	0	*	*	*
*	Puerto Rico	0	0	0	*	*	*	0
1	Spain	0	*	*	*	*	*	*
0	Suriname	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*	Uruguay	0	*	0	*	*	*	*
*	Venezuela	1	1	1	*	1	1	*
*	French Guyana	0	0	0	*	0	0	0
0	Jamaica	0	*	0	1	1	0	*
0	Trinidad/Caribbean Islands	0	0	0	*	*	*	*
0	Italy	0	0	0	*	*	*	*
0	Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Other	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
*	Don't know (VOL.)	0	*	*	1	*	*	0
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	1	*	*	*	*	0

(n=901)

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

4/5. COMBO TABLE

		<i>Trends</i>					
<u>Total</u>		<u>Dec</u> <u>2011</u>	<u>Sep</u> <u>2010</u>	<u>Sep</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>Jul</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Jul</u> <u>2006</u>
44	United States	41	41	41	38	37	43
4	Puerto Rico	5	4	4	4	4	2
52	Another country	55	55	55	59	59	55
*	Don't know (VOL.)	NA	NA	NA	NA	*	NA
*	Refused (VOL.)	NA	NA	NA	NA	*	*
*	Argentina	*	*	*	*	*	1
0	Barbados	0	0	*	0	0	0
*	Belize	*	*	*	*	*	0
*	Bolivia	*	0	*	*	*	*
*	Brazil	*	*	*	*	*	*
*	Chile	*	*	*	*	*	*
1	Colombia	2	2	1	2	2	2
*	Costa Rica	*	1	*	*	*	*
3	Cuba	3	3	3	3	3	2
3	Dominican Republic	2	2	4	2	2	2
1	Ecuador	1	1	1	1	1	2
3	El Salvador	3	3	4	2	3	3
0	Falkland Islands	0	0	0	*	0	*
2	Guatemala	3	1	1	2	2	2
0	Guyana	0	0	0	*	*	*
0	Haiti	0	*	*	*	*	0
1	Honduras	2	1	1	1	2	1
32	Mexico	33	37	34	39	38	36
1	Nicaragua	1	1	1	*	*	*
*	Panama	1	*	*	*	*	*
0	Paraguay	0	*	*	0	*	*
1	Peru	1	1	1	1	1	1
0	Portugal	*	0	0	0	*	*
*	Spain	0	*	*	*	*	*
0	Suriname	0	0	0	0	0	0
*	Uruguay	0	*	0	*	*	*
*	Venezuela	1	1	*	*	*	1
*	French Guyana	0	0	0	*	0	0
0	Jamaica	0	*	0	*	1	0
0	Trinidad/Caribbean Islands	0	0	0	*	*	*
0	Italy	0	0	0	*	*	*
0	Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	Other	1	1	*	1	1	*
*	Don't know (VOL.)	0	*	*	*	*	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	*	*	*	*

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK IF FOREIGN BORN OR BORN IN PUERTO RICO (Q.4=1,3,D,R)

6. How many years have you lived in the United States [IF Q.4=1 pr Q.5=24 INSERT: (excluding Puerto Rico)]?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
8	Less than 1 year to 5 years	14	7	3
14	6-10 years	4	15	3
33	11-20 years	10	35	20
43	More than 20 years	72	41	74
2	Don't know/Ref. (VOL.)	1	2	1
(n=1,006)		(n=107)	(n=899)	(n=357)

Trend:

	Less than 1 year to 5 <u>years</u>	6-10 <u>years</u>	11-20 <u>years</u>	More than 20 <u>years</u>	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)
Oct 2012	8	14	33	43	1	1
Dec 2011	10	19	27	38	4	1

Trend for Comparison: ^a

	Less than 1 year to 5 <u>years</u>	6-10 <u>years</u>	11-20 <u>years</u>	More than 20 <u>years</u>	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)	
Sep 2010	11	16	29	41	1	1	
Sep 2009	15	19	26	39	*	1	
Jul 2008 ^b	19	16	28	36	1	1	
Nov 2007	16	20	28	36	1	*	
Jul 2006	20	17	28	32	1	3	
	0-12 <u>years</u>	13-24 <u>years</u>	25-36 <u>years</u>	37-49 <u>years</u>	50-97 <u>years</u>	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)
Jun 2004	44	30	15	7	2	*	1
Jun 2002 ^c	47	31	14	5	1	*	NA

^a For all trends, asked "How many years have you lived in the continental United States?" of Puerto Ricans.^b Did not ask those with "Don't know" or "Refused" responses to Q.4 in 2008, 2007, 2006, 2004 or 2002,^c This question was not asked of respondents born in Puerto Rico in June '02**ASK IF NATIVE BORN (Q.4=1-2)**

7. Was your mother born on the island of Puerto Rico, in the United States, or in another country?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Registered voters</u>
15	Puerto Rico	16
52	U.S.	53
32	Another country	31
*	Don't know (VOL.)	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	*
(n=864)		(n=629)

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

QUESTION 7 CONTINUED...

Trends:

	Puerto Rico	U.S.	Another country	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)
Oct 2012	15	52	32	*	*
Dec 2011	14	45	40	*	1
Sep 2010	16	51	33	1	0

Trend for Comparison: ^a

	Puerto Rico	U.S.	Another country	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)
Sep 2009	7	24	68	1	*
Jul 2008	7	23	70	*	*
Nov 2007	6	22	72	*	*

^a This question was asked of total Latinos in '09, '08 and '07.

ASK IF NATIVE BORN (Q.4=1-2)

8. Was your father born on the island of Puerto Rico, in the United States, or in another country?

Total		Registered voters
16	Puerto Rico	15
47	U.S.	48
36	Another country	36
1	Don't know (VOL.)	1
0	Refused (VOL.)	0
(n=864)		(n=629)

Trends:

	Puerto Rico	U.S.	Another country	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)
Oct 2012	16	47	36	1	0
Dec 2011	16	40	42	1	1
Sep 2010	15	46	36	2	0

Trend for Comparison: ^a

	Puerto Rico	U.S.	Another country	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)
Sep 2009	7	22	70	1	*
Jul 2008	8	20	72	1	*
Nov 2007	6	19	74	1	*

^a This question was asked of total Latinos in '09, '08, and '07.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK IF FOREIGN BORN (Q.4=3,D,R and Q.5#24)

9. Are you a citizen of the United States?

		<i>Trends</i>					
<u>Total</u>		<u>Dec</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Jul</u>
		<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
37	Yes	40	41	40	34	36	36
63	No	57	57	58	66	62	63
*	Don't know (VOL.)	0	*	*	*	1	1
*	Refused (VOL.)	3	2	2	*	1	1
(n=899)							

ASK IF FOREIGN BORN CITIZEN (Q.9=1)

9a. What year did you become a citizen?

<u>Total</u>	
12	2010-2012
37	2000-2009
15	1990-1999
11	1980-1989
4	1970-1979
4	Before 1970
2	U.S. Citizen by birth (VOL.)
14	Refused (VOL.)
(n=375)	

On another subject...

ASK ALL

10. All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native</u>	<u>Foreign</u>	<u>Registered</u>
		<u>born</u>	<u>born</u>	<u>voters</u>
51	Satisfied	45	57	45
43	Dissatisfied	49	36	50
5	Don't know (VOL.)	5	6	5
1	Refused (VOL.)	1	1	1

Trends:

<u>Oct</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Dec</u>	
<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	
51	38	36	27	25	33	49	40	Satisfied
43	56	57	66	70	60	40	50	Dissatisfied
5	5	6	5	4	7 ^a	10	10	Don't know (VOL.)
1	1	2	1	*	NA	0	0	Refused (VOL.)

^a"Don't know" and "Refused" were a combined category in the Mar 2006 poll.

Registered Voter Trends:

<u>Oct</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Jul</u>	
<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>	
45	36	34	27	27	Satisfied
50	58	59	68	70	Dissatisfied
5	4	5	5	3	Don't know (VOL.)
1	2	2	*	*	Refused (VOL.)

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

QUESTION 10 CONTINUED ...

General Population Comparison:

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	Don't know/ Refused <u>(VOL.)</u>
PP Jul 2012	31	64	5
Registered voters:			
PP July 2012	28	67	5

ASK ALL

11. How much thought have you given to the coming presidential election... Quite a lot or only a little?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
48	Quite a lot	50	46	61
4	Some (VOL.)	4	4	4
42	Only a little	40	43	31
5	None (VOL.)	4	5	3
2	Don't know (VOL.)	1	2	1
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	1	*

Trend for Comparison: ^a

	<u>Quite a lot</u>	<u>Some (VOL.)</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>None (VOL.)</u>	<u>Don't know/ (VOL.)</u>	<u>Refused (VOL.)</u>
Sep 2010	25	4	55	13	3	1
Registered voters:						
Sep 2010	32	5	52	9	2	1

^a Results show interest in the the 2010 midterm elections.

General Population Comparison: ^a

	<u>Quite a lot</u>	<u>Some (VOL.)</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>None (VOL.)</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused (VOL.)</u>
Registered voters:					
PP Sep 2012	70	4	23	2	1
PP Oct 2010 ^b	55	4	34	5	1

^a General Population Comparison based on registered voters who say they are "absolutely certain" they will vote in the coming election.

^b 2010 results show interest in the the 2010 midterm elections.

NO QUESTION 12

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK IF BORN IN U.S. OR CITIZEN OF U.S (Q.9=1 OR Q.4=1, 2 OR Q.5=24)/ ASK IF OTHER OR DK (Q.13=3, D, R)

13/14. If the presidential election were being held TODAY, would you vote for **(READ LIST/ROTATE 1 AND 2)?**/ As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to **(READ LIST/ROTATE SAME ORDER)?**

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
70	Vote/Lean Barack Obama and Joe Biden	69	71	69
18	Vote/Lean Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan	18	17	21
2	Other candidate (VOL.)	2	2	2
5	Will not vote (VOL.)	5	3	2
4	Don't know (VOL.)	4	5	4
2	Refused (VOL.)	1	3	1
(n=1,241)		(n=866)	(n=375)	(n=903)

Trend for Comparison: ^a

<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Dec 2011 (RV)</u>	
65	68	Vote/Lean Barack Obama
20	23	Vote/Lean Mitt Romney
*	*	Other candidate (VOL.)
6	4	Neither/Don't care (VOL.)
6	4	Don't know (VOL.)
2	2	Refused (VOL.)

^a In December 2011, the questions read: "Now suppose the 2012 presidential election were being held today. If you had to choose between (READ LIST), who would you vote for?/As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to (READ LIST)?" Items did not include vice presidential candidates and were asked during the Republican primary race along with a list with other potential candidates.

General Population Comparison ^{b,c}:

	<u>Registered voters</u>	
	<u>Sep 2012</u>	<u>Nov 2011</u>
Vote/Lean Barack Obama and Joe Biden	51	49
Vote/Lean Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan	42	47
Other candidate (VOL.)	2	1
Will not vote (VOL.)	NA	NA
Don't know (VOL.)	6	3
Refused (VOL.)	NA	NA

^b General Population Comparison based on registered voters who say they are "absolutely certain" they will vote in the coming election. "Don't know" and "Refused" answers are combined into one category.

^c In November 2011, the questions read: "Now suppose the 2012 presidential election were being held today. If you had to choose between (READ LIST), who would you vote for?/As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to (READ LIST)?" Items did not include vice presidential candidates and were asked during the Republican primary race along with a list with other potential candidates.

NO QUESTION 15; QUESTION 16 MOVED TO DEMOGRAPHICS SECTION AFTER Q.64

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK IF BORN IN U.S. OR CITIZEN OF U.S (Q.9=1 OR Q.4=1, 2 OR Q.5=24)/ ASK IF PLAN TO VOTE IN THE ELECTION (Q.17=1)

17/17a. Do you yourself plan to vote in the election this November? / How certain are you that you will vote? Are you absolutely certain, fairly certain, or not certain?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
81	Yes	79	85	91
62	Absolutely certain	63	62	77
12	Fairly certain	11	16	10
5	Not certain	5	6	4
16	No	18	10	6
3	Don't know (VOL.)	3	5	3
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	0
(n=1,241)		(n=866)	(n=375)	(n=903)

Trend for Comparison:^a

<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	
71	84	Yes
43	NA	Absolutely certain
20	NA	Fairly certain
7	NA	Not certain
23	12	No
6	4	Don't know (VOL.)
1	1	Refused (VOL.)

^a 2010 results show intention to vote in the the 2010 midterm elections. 2008 results show intention to vote in the 2008 presidential elections.

Registered Voter Trend for Comparison:^a

<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	
81	94	Yes
51	NA	Absolutely certain
22	NA	Fairly certain
7	NA	Not certain
11	3	No
7	3	Don't know (VOL.)
*	0	Refused (VOL.)

^a 2010 results show intention to vote in the the 2010 midterm elections. 2008 results show intention to vote in the 2008 presidential elections.

General Population Comparison:^a

<u>Registered voters</u>			
<u>Sep 2012</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	
97	94	97	Yes
89	NA	NA	Absolutely certain
7	NA	NA	Fairly certain
1	NA	NA	Not certain
2	4	2	No
1	3	1	Don't know/ Refused (VOL.)

^a General Population Comparison based on registered voters who say they are "absolutely certain" they will vote in the coming election.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK ALL

18. Now in thinking about the 2012 Presidential election, in your opinion, will the (HISPANIC/LATINO) vote have a major impact, a minor impact or will it have no impact at all in determining who wins the 2012 Presidential election?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native <u>born</u></i>	<i>Foreign <u>born</u></i>	<i>Registered <u>voters</u></i>
67	Major impact	62	72	67
23	Minor impact	27	19	24
4	No impact at all	5	4	4
5	Don't know (VOL.)	5	5	4
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*

ASK ALL

19. Which party do you think has more concern for (HISPANICS/LATINOS) – **(READ LIST/ROTATE 1 AND 2)** or is there no difference?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native <u>born</u></i>	<i>Foreign <u>born</u></i>	<i>Registered <u>voters</u></i>
55	Democratic Party	60	50	61
9	Republican Party	8	9	10
28	No difference	23	32	23
8	Don't know (VOL.)	8	8	5
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	1	1

Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Jul 2006</u>	<u>Jun 2004</u>	<u>Jun 2002</u>	
55	37	37	49	34	37	34	35	Democratic Party
9	9	7	7	8	9	9	9	Republican Party
28	39	47	37	43	37	46	46	No difference
8	14	8	5	14	15	9	10	Don't know (VOL.)
*	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	Refused (VOL.)

Registered Voter Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Jul 2006</u>	<u>Jun 2004</u>	<u>Jun 2002</u>	
61	45	47	55	44	46	43	45	Democratic Party
10	12	6	6	8	8	11	10	Republican Party
23	33	42	35	42	35	42	40	No difference
5	10	4	4	6	10	4	5	Don't know (VOL.)
1	1	1	*	1	1	*	*	Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTION 20

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK ALL

21. Now I'm going to read you a list of issues that might be discussed during this year's presidential campaign. For each item I name, please tell me how important this issue is to you personally. Is the issue of **(INSERT ITEM/SCRAMBLE ITEMS)** extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not too important to you personally?

a. Education

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native born</i>	<i>Foreign born</i>	<i>Registered voters</i>
93	Extremely/very (NET)	91	95	93
47	Extremely important	54	41	55
46	Very important	38	54	38
5	Somewhat important	6	4	5
1	Not too important	2	1	2
*	Don't know (VOL.)	1	0	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	0

b. Jobs and the Economy

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native born</i>	<i>Foreign born</i>	<i>Registered voters</i>
94	Extremely/very (NET)	94	95	95
47	Extremely important	55	40	54
47	Very important	39	54	41
4	Somewhat important	4	4	3
1	Not too important	1	1	1
*	Don't know (VOL.)	1	*	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	0

c. Health care

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native born</i>	<i>Foreign born</i>	<i>Registered voters</i>
90	Extremely/very (NET)	87	93	90
44	Extremely important	50	39	50
46	Very important	37	54	40
7	Somewhat important	9	6	8
2	Not too important	3	1	3
*	Don't know (VOL.)	1	*	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*

d. Immigration

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native born</i>	<i>Foreign born</i>	<i>Registered voters</i>
77	Extremely/very (NET)	69	84	74
33	Extremely important	30	35	34
44	Very important	39	49	39
14	Somewhat important	19	10	16
7	Not too important	10	5	9
1	Don't know (VOL.)	2	1	1
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

QUESTION 21 CONTINUED...

e. The federal budget deficit

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
73	Extremely/very (NET)	76	70	80
28	Extremely important	34	23	36
45	Very important	42	47	43
17	Somewhat important	15	18	12
6	Not too important	7	5	6
5	Don't know (VOL.)	2	7	3
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	*

NO PART F

g. Taxes

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
77	Extremely/very (NET)	78	76	80
27	Extremely important	32	23	33
50	Very important	46	54	47
16	Somewhat important	16	16	14
5	Not too important	4	5	5
2	Don't know (VOL.)	1	2	1
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*

Trend for Comparison:^a

		<u>Extremely important</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Don't know (VOL.)</u>	<u>Refused (VOL.)</u>
a.	Education						
	Oct 2012	47	46	5	1	*	*
	Dec 2011	48	45	4	3	*	*
	Sep 2010	47	47	3	2	*	*
	Jul 2008	45	48	5	1	*	*
b.	Jobs						
	Dec 2011	47	48	3	2	*	*
	Sep 2010	45	49	5	1	*	*
	Jul 2008	41	52	5	2	*	*
c.	Health care						
	Oct 2012	44	46	7	2	*	*
	Dec 2011	40	50	5	5	*	*
	Sep 2010	42	49	7	2	*	*
	Jul 2008	42	51	5	2	*	*
d.	Immigration						
	Oct 2012	33	44	14	7	1	*
	Dec 2011	34	43	15	7	1	*
	Sep 2010	32	47	15	6	1	*
	Jul 2008	34	46	13	6	1	*
e.	The federal budget deficit						
	Oct 2012	28	45	17	6	5	*
	Dec 2011	29	44	17	6	4	1
	Sep 2010	29	43	16	7	4	*
g.	Taxes						
	Oct 2012	27	50	16	5	2	*
	Dec 2011	30	46	16	6	2	*

^a Results measure importance of issues prior to the 2008 presidential elections, 2010 midterm elections and a year prior to the 2012 presidential elections.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

NO QUESTIONS 22-26

On another topic...

ASK IF BORN IN U.S. OR CITIZEN OF U.S (Q.9=1 OR Q.4=1, 2 OR Q.5=24)

27. As far as you know, does your state require voters to present photo identification to be allowed to vote on Election Day, or not?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
60	Yes, they do	61	58	62
23	No, they do not	22	26	26
1	My state is vote by mail (VOL.)	*	2	1
16	Don't know (VOL.)	17	14	12
0	Refused (VOL.)	0	0	0
(n=1,241)		(n=866)	(n=375)	(n=903)

General Population Comparison:^a

	<u>Yes, they do</u>	<u>No, they do not</u>	<u>My state is vote by mail (VOL.)</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused (VOL.)</u>
PP Sep 2012	59	24	1	17
Registered voters:				
PP Sep 2012	61	28	1	11

^a General Population Comparisons based on all adults and all registered voter adults who say they are "absolutely certain" they will vote in the coming election.

ASK IF BORN IN U.S. OR CITIZEN OF U.S (Q.9=1 OR Q.4=1, 2 OR Q.5=24)

27a. Do you think voters should or should not be required to show an official photo identification before they are allowed to vote on Election Day?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
71	Should	69	76	71
27	Should not	29	23	27
2	Don't know (VOL.)	2	2	2
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	0	*
(n=1,241)		(n=866)	(n=375)	(n=903)

General Population Comparison:^a

	<u>Should show photo ID</u>	<u>Should not have to do this</u>	<u>Don't know/Refused (VOL.)</u>
PP Sep 2012	75	22	3
Registered voters:			
PP Sep 2012	77	20	3

^a General Population Comparison based on registered voters who say they are "absolutely certain" they will vote in the coming election.

NO QUESTION 28; QUESTION 29 MOVED TO DEMOGRAPHICS SECTION AFTER Q.16; NO QUESTION 30

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

On another subject...

ASK ALL

31. President Obama recently announced a policy that will allow illegal immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children to remain in the U.S. and apply for work permits. Do you strongly approve, approve, disapprove or strongly disapprove of this new policy?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native <u>born</u></i>	<i>Foreign <u>born</u></i>	<i>Registered <u>voters</u></i>
89	Approve (NET)	85	93	86
50	Strongly approve	43	55	47
40	Approve	42	38	39
9	Disapprove (NET)	13	5	12
6	Disapprove	8	4	8
3	Strongly disapprove	5	1	4
2	Don't know (VOL.)	2	1	2
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*

General Population Comparison:

Jul	
<u>2012</u>	
63	Approve
33	Disapprove
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL

32. Do you personally know someone who has applied for or is planning to apply for this new U.S. government program? **[INTERVIEWER NOTE: (EXPLAIN IF NECESSARY: The new program which allows illegal immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children to remain in the U.S. and apply for work permits)]**

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native <u>born</u></i>	<i>Foreign <u>born</u></i>	<i>Registered <u>voters</u></i>
31	Yes	24	37	26
68	No	75	62	74
*	Have applied or planning to apply (VOL.)	0	*	*
1	Don't know (VOL.)	1	1	1
0	Refused (VOL.)	0	0	0

NO QUESTION 33**ASK ALL**

34. Do you personally know someone who has been deported or detained by the federal government for immigration reasons in the last 12 months?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native <u>born</u></i>	<i>Foreign <u>born</u></i>	<i>Registered <u>voters</u></i>
26	Yes	23	28	22
74	No	76	72	78
1	Don't know (VOL.)	*	1	*
0	Refused (VOL.)	0	0	0

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

QUESTION 34 CONTINUED ...**Trends:**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't know</u> (VOL.)	<u>Refused</u> (VOL.)
Oct 2012	26	74	1	0
Dec 2011	24	75	1	*
Sep 2010	32	68	*	*

NO QUESTION 35

On another topic...

[ROTATE IN BLOCKS Q36-Q37, Q38-Q39]**ASK ALL**

36. Would you say you can carry on a conversation in Spanish, both understanding and speaking -- very well, pretty well, just a little, or not at all?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native</u> <u>born</u>	<u>Foreign</u> <u>born</u>	<u>Registered</u> <u>voters</u>
80	Very/pretty well (NET)	66	92	75
54	Very well	41	65	49
26	Pretty well	25	27	26
15	Just a little	24	6	19
5	Not at all	10	1	6
*	Don't know (VOL.)	0	*	0
0	Refused (VOL.)	0	0	0

Trends:

<u>Oct</u> <u>2012</u>	<u>Dec</u> <u>2011</u>	<u>Sep</u> <u>2010</u>	<u>Sep</u> <u>2009</u>	
80	82	80	79	Very/pretty well (NET)
54	54	55	52	Very well
26	28	25	26	Pretty well
15	13	13	16	Just a little
5	5	6	5	Not at all
*	0	*	*	Don't know (VOL.)
0	*	*	*	Refused (VOL.)

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK ALL

37. Would you say you can read a newspaper or book in Spanish—very well, pretty well, just a little, or not at all?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native <u>born</u></i>	<i>Foreign <u>born</u></i>	<i>Registered <u>voters</u></i>
74	Very/pretty well (NET)	57	90	68
47	Very well	33	60	43
27	Pretty well	24	29	25
15	Just a little	23	8	19
11	Not at all	20	2	12
*	Don't know (VOL.)	0	*	0
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	*

Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Sep 2009</u>	
74	78	73	74	Very/pretty well (NET)
47	52	48	50	Very well
27	27	25	24	Pretty well
15	13	16	15	Just a little
11	9	11	10	Not at all
*	*	0	0	Don't know (VOL.)
*	*	1	1	Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL

38. Would you say you can carry on a conversation in English, both understanding and speaking—very well, pretty well, just a little, or not at all?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native <u>born</u></i>	<i>Foreign <u>born</u></i>	<i>Registered <u>voters</u></i>
64	Very/pretty well (NET)	93	37	84
52	Very well	81	25	71
12	Pretty well	12	12	13
26	Just a little	6	46	14
9	Not at all	1	17	2
*	Don't know (VOL.)	*	*	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	0

Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Sep 2009</u>	
64	61	59	63	Very/pretty well (NET)
52	48	47	51	Very well
12	13	12	12	Pretty well
26	31	29	25	Just a little
9	8	12	11	Not at all
*	0	*	*	Don't know (VOL.)
*	*	1	*	Refused (VOL.)

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK ALL

39. Would you say you can read a newspaper or book in English—very well, pretty well, just a little, or not at all?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
64	Very/pretty well (NET)	92	38	85
53	Very well	83	26	74
11	Pretty well	9	12	10
24	Just a little	6	41	12
12	Not at all	2	20	3
*	Don't know (VOL.)	*	*	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	0

Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Sep 2009</u>	
64	60	58	63	Very/pretty well (NET)
53	49	48	52	Very well
11	11	10	11	Pretty well
24	30	29	24	Just a little
12	10	12	13	Not at all
*	0	*	*	Don't know (VOL.)
*	*	*	*	Refused (VOL.)

On another topic...

ASK ALL

40. How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape or poor shape financially?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
33	Excellent/Good (NET)	40	27	42
5	Excellent shape	7	4	7
28	Good shape	33	22	36
66	Only fair/Poor (NET)	59	73	57
50	Only fair shape	40	59	42
16	Poor shape	19	14	15
1	Don't know (VOL.)	1	*	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	0	*

Trends:

	<u>Excellent shape</u>	<u>Good shape</u>	<u>Only fair shape</u>	<u>Poor shape</u>	<u>Don't know (VOL.)</u>	<u>Refused (VOL.)</u>
Oct 2012	5	28	50	16	1	*
Dec 2011	5	19	51	25	*	1
Nov 2008	4	19	46	30	1	1
Jan 2004 ^a	4	27	45	24	1	NA

^a "Don't know" and "Refused" answers are combined into one category.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

QUESTION 40 CONTINUED...

Registered Voter Trends:

	Excellent <u>shape</u>	Good <u>shape</u>	Only fair <u>shape</u>	Poor <u>shape</u>	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)
Oct 2012	7	36	42	15	*	*
Dec 2011	5	26	45	23	*	1
Nov 2008	6	28	41	24	1	1

General Population Comparison:

	Excellent <u>shape</u>	Good <u>shape</u>	Only fair <u>shape</u>	Poor <u>shape</u>	Don't know/ Refused (VOL.)
PP Sep 2012	8	35	36	20	1
PP Dec 2011	6	32	37	24	1
PP Dec 2008	6	32	40	21	1
PP Aug 2004	9	42	34	14	1

Registered voters:

PP Sep 2012	10	39	34	16	1
PP Dec 2011	6	36	38	19	1
PP Dec 2008	7	35	42	16	1
PP Aug 2004	10	46	32	11	1

ASK ALL

41. Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse or get a lot worse?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native born</i> <u>born</u>	<i>Foreign born</i> <u>born</u>	<i>Registered voters</i> <u>voters</u>
73	Improve (NET)	72	74	70
16	Improve a lot	18	14	18
57	Improve some	54	60	52
6	Stay the same (VOL.)	5	6	6
15	Worsen (NET)	18	11	17
10	Get a little worse	13	8	11
4	Get a lot worse	5	3	6
7	Don't know (VOL.)	5	9	6
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*	*

Trends:

	Improve <u>a lot</u>	Improve <u>some</u>	Stay the same (VOL.)	Get a little <u>worse</u>	Get a lot <u>worse</u>	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)
Oct 2012	16	57	6	10	4	7	*
Dec 2011	11	56	7	14	8	4	1
Nov 2008	16	51	8	11	4	8	1
Jan 2004 ^a	17	59	NA	10	3	11	NA

^a In 2004 "stay the same" was not coded as a category. Also, "Don't know" and "Refused" answers are combined into one category.

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

QUESTION 41 CONTINUED ...

Registered Voter Trends:

	Improve <u>a lot</u>	Improve <u>some</u>	Stay the same (VOL.)	Get a little <u>worse</u>	Get a lot <u>worse</u>	Don't know (VOL.)	Refused (VOL.)
Oct 2012	18	52	6	11	6	6	*
Dec 2011	12	55	9	14	6	4	1
Nov 2008	14	51	9	13	5	7	1

General Population Comparison:

	Improve <u>a lot</u>	Improve <u>some</u>	Stay the same (VOL.)	Get a little <u>worse</u>	Get a lot <u>worse</u>	Don't know/ Refused (VOL.)
PP Sep 2012	12	54	11	11	4	7
PP Dec 2011	9	49	15	17	5	4
PP Dec 2008	7	49	14	21	6	4
PP Aug 2004	13	57	12	9	3	6
Registered voters:						
PP Sep 2012	12	54	13	10	3	7
PP Dec 2011	8	48	17	18	5	4
PP Dec 2008	7	47	14	22	5	3
PP Aug 2004	13	57	13	10	2	6

NO QUESTION 42; QUESTIONS 43 TO 59 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE; NO QUESTION 60

Finally, I'd like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only...

ASK ALL

61. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
10	Republican	12	8	14
49	Democrat	53	45	57
23	Independent	20	26	20
10	Something else	11	10	6
7	Don't know (VOL.)	4	9	3
2	Refused (VOL.)	1	2	1

Trends:

Oct <u>2012</u>	Dec <u>2011</u>	Sep <u>2010</u>	Sep <u>2009</u>	Nov <u>2008</u>	Jul <u>2008</u>	Nov <u>2007</u>	Jul <u>2006</u>	Jun <u>2004</u>	Jun <u>2002</u>	
10	12	13	13	11	12	12	14	14	16	Republican
49	41	35	38	43	40	31	31	35	35	Democrat
23	25	28	20	25	30	36	25	26	28	Independent
10	12	12	13	10	8	9	9	12	10	Something else
7	8	8	7	7	8	10	14	12	11	Don't know (VOL.)
2	2	5	8	3	2	2	7	2	NA	Refused (VOL.)

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK IF INDEPENDENT OR SOMETHING ELSE (Q.61=3,4,D,R)

62. Do you consider yourself closer to the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
18	Republican Party	20	18	28
42	Democrat Party	46	39	43
23	Neither (VOL.)	21	25	19
1	Other (VOL.)	1	1	*
13	Don't know (VOL.)	11	15	6
2	Refused (VOL.)	2	2	3
(n=704)		(n=301)	(n=403)	(n=265)

Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Sep 2009</u>	<u>Nov 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Jul 2006^a</u>	<u>Jun 2004^a</u>	<u>Jun 2002^a</u>	
18	16	18	13	17	15	20	12	19	23	24	Republican Party
42	40	36	30	39	53	43	27	32	35	34	Democrat Party
23	26	29	30	27	19	22	47	36	27	36	Neither (VOL.)
1	1	1	1	1	7	1	2	1	6	*	Other (VOL.)
13	13	11	16	11	3	12	10	12	8	6	Don't know (VOL.)
2	4	4	11	5	2	2	2	*	1	NA	Refused (VOL.)

^a In Jul 2006 and Jun 2002, the follow-up question was only asked of those who said "Independent" to the first question. In Jun 2004, it was only asked of those who said "Independent" or "Something else."

61/62. COMBO TABLES

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
18	Republican/Leaned Rep.	19	16	22
66	Democrat/Leaned Dem.	69	63	70
16	Neither/Other/Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	12	20	9

Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Sep 2009</u>	<u>Nov 2008</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Jul 2006^a</u>	<u>Jun 2004^a</u>	<u>Jun 2002^a</u>	
18	19	22	19	19	22	18	19	22	22	Republican/Leaned Rep.
66	60	54	53	61	61	46	39	48	44	Democrat/Leaned Dem.
16	21	24	28	20	18	35	42	30	34	Neither/Other/ Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

^a In Jul 2006 and Jun 2002, the follow-up question was only asked of those who said "Independent" to the first question. In Jun 2004, it was only asked of those who said "Independent" or "Something else."

Registered Voter Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Nov 2008</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Jul 2006^a</u>	<u>Jun 2004^a</u>	<u>Jun 2002^a</u>	
22	20	25	22	26	23	27	28	25	Republican/Leaned Rep.
70	67	62	65	65	57	49	55	56	Democrat/Leaned Dem.
9	13	13	13	9	20	23	17	19	Neither/Other/ Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

^a In Jul 2006 and Jun 2002, the follow-up question was only asked of those who said "Independent" to the first question. In Jun 2004, it was only asked of those who said "Independent" or "Something else."

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

61/62. COMBO TABLES CONTINUED ...**General Population Comparisons:^a**

	Republican/ <u>Leaned Rep.</u>	Democrat/ <u>Leaned Dem.</u>	Refused to <u>lean</u>
Sep 2012	39	51	11
Registered voters:			
Sep 2012	42	51	7

^a For General Population Comparisons, the follow-up question is: "As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?" The category "Refused to lean" combines the "Neither/Other," "Don't know" and "Refused" categories in the Hispanic tables.

NO QUESTION 63**ASK ALL**

64. Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
63	Employed (NET)	62	64	64
47	Full-time	47	46	50
16	Part-time	14	17	13
37	Not employed	38	36	36
*	Don't know (VOL.)	*	*	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	1	*

Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Sep 2009</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	
63	63	60	61	65	63	Employed (NET)
47	47	46	45	52	50	Full-time
16	15	14	16	13	13	Part-time
37	36	39	39	31	34	Not employed
*	*	1	*	*	*	Don't know (VOL.)
*	1	1	*	3	3	Refused (VOL.)

ASK IF BORN IN U.S. OR CITIZEN OF U.S (Q.9=1 OR Q.4=1, 2 OR Q.5=24)

16. Which of these statements best describes you? (**READ IN ORDER**)

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>
68	Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote at your current address	68	68
9	Are you probably registered, but there is a chance your registration has lapsed	8	13
21	Are you not registered to vote at your current address	22	18
*	Was in prison/Not eligible to vote (VOL.)	0	*
2	Don't know (VOL.)	2	1
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*
(n=1,241)		(n=866)	(n=375)

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK IF BORN IN U.S. OR CITIZEN OF U.S. (Q.9=1 OR Q.4=1,2 OR Q.5=24)

Q29. Are you confident that you have the identification you might need to be allowed to vote in your state, or not?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
93	Yes	94	91	97
6	No	5	8	3
*	Do not need any identification to vote (VOL.)	*	0	*
*	Do not plan to vote (VOL.)	*	0	*
*	Don't know (VOL.)	*	*	*
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	1	*
(n=1,241)		(n=866)	(n=375)	(n=903)

GENERAL POPULATION COMPARISON:^a

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Do not need any identification to vote (VOL.)</u>	<u>Refused (VOL.)</u>
Registered voters:				
Sep 2012	98	1	1	*

^aGeneral Population Comparison based on registered voters who say they are "absolutely certain" they will vote in the coming election. "Do not plan to vote" was not included as a volunteered option.

ASK ALL

65. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under 18 now living in your household?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
48	Yes	40	55	41
52	No	60	44	59
*	Don't know (VOL.)	0	*	0
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	1	*

Trends:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't know (VOL.)</u>	<u>Refused (VOL.)</u>
Oct 2012	48	52	*	*
Dec 2011	45	53	0	2
Sep 2010	49	50	*	*
Jul 2008	48	49	*	3
Nov 2007	49	48	*	2

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK ALL

66. Are you currently married, do you have a partner, are you widowed, divorced, or separated, or have you never been married?

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
63	Married/partner (NET)	56	69	58
47	Married	41	52	48
16	Have a partner	15	16	10
36	No spouse (NET)	42	31	40
4	Widowed	4	5	5
6	Divorced	7	6	7
5	Separated	4	6	5
20	Never been married	28	13	23
*	Don't know (VOL.)	1	*	*
1	Refused (VOL.)	1	1	1

Trends:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	<u>Sep 2009</u>	<u>Jul 2008</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	
47	50	48	45	49	49	Married
16	11	12	11	9	9	Have a partner
4	4	5	4	4	4	Widowed
6	6	6	8	6	8	Divorced
5	7	5	5	6	6	Separated
20	20	23	25	22	22	Never been married
*	*	1	0	*	1	Don't know (VOL.)
1	3	1	2	3	3	Refused (VOL.)

QUESTIONS 67 TO 70 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE; NO QUESTION 71**ASK ALL**

72. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?
(DO NOT READ LIST. ENTER ONE ONLY) [INTERVIEWER NOTES: Enter code 3-HS grad if R completed training that did NOT count toward a degree. Enter code 3-HS grad if R completed vocational, business, technical, or training courses after high school that did NOT count toward an associate degree from a college, community college or university (e.g., training for a certificate or an apprenticeship)]

<u>Total</u>		<u>Native born</u>	<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>Registered voters</u>
33	Less than High School (NET)	15	50	18
17	None, or grade 1-8	5	28	8
16	H.S. incomplete (grade 9-12 no diploma)	10	22	10
30	H.S. Grad (with diploma or GED)	33	27	28
36	Some College + (NET)	51	22	53
	Some college, no 4-year degree			
16	(incl. community college)	21	11	20
7	Two year associate degree	11	4	11
	College graduate			
8	(B.S., B.A., or other 4-year degree)	13	5	14
1	Some postgraduate or professional schooling	1	1	2
	Post-graduate or professional schooling degree			
3	(M.A., M.S., Ph.D., M.D., J.D., or other)	5	2	6
1	Don't Know (VOL.)	1	1	1
1	Refused (VOL.)	1	*	1

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK ALL/ASK IF REFUSED TO GIVE AGE (Q.73=RR)

73/73a What is your age?/Would you say you are **(READ LIST)**?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native born</i>	<i>Foreign born</i>	<i>Registered voters</i>
29	18-29	41	19	29
41	30-49	33	49	34
17	50-64	16	18	21
8	65+	7	10	12
3	Refused (VOL.)	3	3	4

ASK ALL

74. Last year, that is in 2011, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category. **(READ LIST)**

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native born</i>	<i>Foreign born</i>	<i>Registered voters</i>
13	Less than \$10,000	9	15	10
21	10 to under \$20,000	16	26	15
16	20 to under \$30,000	13	18	12
9	30 to under \$40,000	9	9	9
7	40 to under \$50,000	7	7	8
8	50 to under \$75,000	11	5	12
7	75 to under \$100,000	11	4	10
3	100 to under \$150,000	6	1	5
2	\$150,000 or more	4	1	5
9	Don't know (VOL.)	9	10	9
4	Refused (VOL.)	5	3	4

ASK IF BORN IN U.S. OR CITIZEN OF U.S (Q.9=1 OR Q.4=1, 2 OR Q.5=24)

75. Do you have a valid state issued driver's license or photo identification with your current address on it, or not?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Registered voters</i>
87	Yes	93
13	No	7
*	Don't know (VOL.)	0
1	Refused (VOL.)	*
(n=1,241)		(n=903)

ASK ALL

HH1. Including yourself, how many adults, 18 or older, are there living in your household?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native born</i>	<i>Foreign born</i>	<i>Registered voters</i>
18	1 adult	20	16	20
46	2 adults	46	45	45
19	3 adults	19	19	19
9	4 adults	6	13	8
4	5 adults	4	4	5
1	6 adults	1	1	*
1	7 adults	*	1	*
1	8+ adults	1	*	*
0	Don't Know (VOL.)	0	0	0
1	Refused (VOL.)	2	1	1

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

HH1 CONTINUED...

Trend:

Oct 2012	Dec 2011	Sep 2010	
18	14	16	1 adult
46	43	42	2 adults
19	23	20	3 adults
9	12	15	4 adults
4	3	4	5 adults
1	1	1	6 adults
1	*	1	7 adults
1	*	1	8+ adults
0	0	NA	Don't Know (VOL.)
1	3	1	Refused (VOL.)

ASK THOSE CALLED ON LANDLINE

LL1./LL2. Now thinking about your telephone use ... Does anyone in your household, including yourself, have a working cellphone?/ Of all the telephone calls that you and the other people in your household receive, are (READ ITEMS)?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native born</i>	<i>Foreign born</i>	<i>Registered voters</i>
75	Has cellphone (NET)	88	66	84
24	All/almost all calls on cellphone	34	17	29
29	Some cell/some regular home phone	31	28	32
21	All/almost all calls on regular home phone	22	21	21
25	HH does not have cellphone	12	34	16
0	Don't Know (VOL.)	0	0	0
0	Refused (VOL.)	0	0	0
(n=880)		(n=427)	(n=453)	(n=508)

Trend:

Oct 2012	Dec 2011	Sep 2010	
75	62	55	Has cellphone (NET)
24	23	17	All/almost all calls on cellphone
29	27	24	Some cell/some regular home phone
21	12	13	All/almost all calls on regular home phone
25	36	43	Household does not have cellphone
0	*	*	Don't Know (VOL.)
0	2	2	Refused (VOL.)

Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting

ASK THOSE CALLED ON CELLPHONE

CP1./CP2. Now thinking about your telephone use, is there at least one telephone INSIDE your home that is currently working and is not a cellphone?/ Of all the telephone calls that you and the other people in your household receive, are **(READ ITEMS)**?

<u>Total</u>		<i>Native <u>born</u></i>	<i>Foreign <u>born</u></i>	<i>Registered <u>voters</u></i>
22	Has home phone (NET)	25	20	28
12	All/almost all calls on cellphone	14	9	14
8	Some cell/some regular home phone	8	8	11
3	All/almost all calls on regular home phone	3	2	3
76	HH does not have home phone	73	80	71
*	Don't Know (VOL.)	0	*	0
1	Refused (VOL.)	2	*	1
(n=885)		(n=439)	(n=446)	(n=395)

Trend:

<u>Oct 2012</u>	<u>Dec 2011</u>	<u>Sep 2010</u>	
22	25	31	Has home phone (NET)
12	13	17	All/almost all calls on cellphone
8	9	10	Some cell/some regular home phone
3	3	2	All/almost all calls on regular home phone
76	71	68	HH does not have home phone
*	*	1	Don't Know (VOL.)
1	4	1	Refused (VOL.)

QUESTIONS 76 TO 80 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE